FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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17 July Middle East and South Asia Review

LD171301 [Editorial Report]

Iran

France's Break in Relations — A 17 July French Foreign Ministry communique cited by AFP described Iran's ultimatum to France as "unacceptable" and announced France's decision to break diplomatic relations with Iran effective immediately. France had earlier reacted to the Iranian 72-hour ultimatum by strengthening the security cordon around the Iranian Embassy in Paris and by preventing four Iranian diplomats and their families from leaving the country, the agency noted.

USSR Relations — Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Larijani heads a delegation which flew to Moscow 16 July for talks on bilateral relations and mutual cooperation, IRNA reported.

Iraq

Iraq will accept only a comprehensive peace with Iran and it warns against "suspect" attempts to divide the war into "areas" or to concentrate on one aspect of the war while excluding others, President Saddam Husayn stated in a revolution anniversary speech broadcast by Baghdad radio. Iraq will therefore reject any UN Security Council resolution that does not include "elements for a comprehensive settlement" or that conflicts with the principles defined by Iraq in August 1986 and the provisions of Security Council Resolution 582, he added.

Kuwait

Preliminary investigations have established that the two men killed by the 15 July car bomb explosion were blown up while trying to plant the explosive charge, the Interior Ministry disclosed in a statement cited by KUNA.

In Lebanon, an unidentified caller told *Al-Nahar* that the Islamic Jihad organization will carry out further bomb attacks in Kuwait before the 22 July hoisting of the U.S. flag on Kuwaiti tankers, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. In another development concerning reflagging, the UAE's *Al-Ittihad* stated that the Syrian foreign minister's recent visits to Tehran, Riyadh, and Kuwait were linked with a Syrian mediation attempt to avoid a U.S.-Iranian military confrontation, WAM reported.

Israel

Political Situation — Although there is now a Knesset majority for early elections it is not clear that the house will be dissolved because leftist and rightist opposition groups have thus far not agreed to cooperate over the dissolution bill, Jerusalem radio reported. Mapam refuses to vote for Tehiya's dissolution bill, which criticizes the government's failure to establish new settlements, and the Citizens Rights Movement has likewise expressed doubt about supporting the Tehiyah bill.

Relations With USSR — "Knowledgeable" sources cited by The Jerusalem Post stated that Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres recently received a "secret message" from Moscow in which the Russians expressed willingness to resume direct political dialogue with Israel in August. The sources also disclosed that the USSR has agreed to examine the possibility of allowing Soviet Jews to visit Israel as tourists.

Turkish-Syrian Talks

Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal said his talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad were held in a "sincere and positive" atmosphere and dealt with "all the issues" between the two countries, Ankara radio reported. According to the radio's information on the talks, Ozal stressed the need for joint ventures involving common rivers and also asked Syria not to allow terrorists acting against Turkey to conduct activities on Syrian territory. Al-Asad reportedly emphasized that Turkey's security is important for Syria, declaring that his country does not and will not permit such terrorist activities on its territory. The radio also noted that Ozal gave Al-Asad a message from President Kenan Evren and invited the Syrian leader to visit Turkey.

Libyan Defectors

The three-man crew of a Libyan military helicopter requested political asylum after landing their MI-8 at an air base in western Egypt, MENA reported.

Algeria

Union between Algeria and Libya is "urgent and corresponds to the logic of history," the FLN Central Committee stated in a resolution reported by Algiers radio. The committee expressed satisfaction with steps taken toward unity and decided to submit a draft proposal on the issue to the "popular masses" for discussion and improvement.

The committee also confirmed Algeria's support for Maghreb unity and for the treaty of fraternity and concord with Tunisia and Mauritania. As for the Western Sahara conflict, the committee urged Morocco to "stop going beyond reality" and to show "wisdom" by ending the bloodshed. An earlier Algiers radio report had cited a Polisario claim that 1,000 Moroccan soldiers were killed in two recent Saharan attacks on Moroccan positions in the Western Sahara.

Tunisia

Members of a "Khomeynist secret organization" were responsible for a violent demonstration in Tunis that was quickly dispersed by security forces, according to an "authorized source" cited by Tunis radio. The demonstrators injured eight security officers and caused material damage to vehicles during their attempt to "spread chaos" and "disturb public order." Security units succeeded in arresting a number of the demonstrators' leaders and members of the Khomeynist group, the source added.

New Proposal on PLO Representation at Conference

NC162156 Paris AFP in English 2147 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Amman, July 16 (AFP) — Jordan has proposed that the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) receive an individual invitation to an international conference on the Middle East, provided it accepts two controversial United Nations resolutions as well as three other conditions, Jordanian sources said here Thursday.

They said the PLO would have to agree to reject "violence and terrorism," accept a solution to the Palestinian question "in all its aspects" and agree to take part in the conference within a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

They added that during a recent secret meeting with a senior Jordanian official, two members of the PLO Executive Committee reacted "positively" to the stipulations, which would have to be made in writing.

Confirmation of the PLO reaction could not be obtained from Palestinian sources.

The different groups within the PLO reiterated their rejection of U.N. resolution 242 during a meeting last April of the Palestine National Council, the PLO parliament-in-exile.

Approved in 1967 after the Middle East war in June of that year, the resolution recognizes the sovereignty of all states in the region — including Israel — but makes no mention of an independent Palestinian state. It refers to the Palestinian issue by calling for "a just settlement of the refugee problem."

Resolution 338 was approved by the U.N. Security Council in October 1973 in a bid to end another war between Israel and its Arab neighbors and calls for the immediate implementation of 242.

PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, according to Jordanian sources here has sent a message to King Husayn offering to come to Jordan to discuss details of PLO participation at a proposed international conference.

They said the proposal was made July 8 in a meeting here between Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and Hani al-Hasan, a senior advisor to Mr 'Arafat.

But sources here said Jordanian officials believe that such a meeting would be futile as long as Palestinian leaders remain opposed to U.N. resolutions 242 and 338. [passage omitted]

PNC Chairman Praises Mubarak's Stand, Efforts

NC161311 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1135 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Amman, 17 Jul (MENA) — PNC Chairman Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sayih has praised President Husni Mubarak's stand and efforts on behalf of the Palestinian issue. He affirmed that Egypt will always have a distinguished leading role in all Arab and Muslim issues.

In a statement made to the MENA correspondent in Amman, Shaykh al-Sayih expressed the hope that the summer cloud that affected Egyptian-PLO relations will disappear. He called on Egypt, with its wise leadership and at all levels, to be more understanding and appreciative of this position. He said that regardless of circumstances, Egypt will not abandon the Palestinian people and will not stop caring for their interests. He affirmed that Egypt was the first to embrace the Palestinian issue and to sacrifice for it. The PNC chairman called for initiating a quiet dialogue between the PLO and Cairo to remove the misunderstanding that arose as a result of the recent PNC meetings in Algiers. Regarding the organization's relations with Jordan, he said: We very much hope that Cairo will help us improve our relations with Jordan and with any other Arab state. [passage omitted]

PFLP Spokesman Condemns Amal Actions in Lebanon

JN161356 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] A spokesman for the PFLP Political Bureau has stated that Amal is persisting in its aggression against Palestinians in the refugee camps, in Tyre, and in neighboring areas. The spokesman added that after the series of arrests, torture, and harassment of hundreds of refugee camp inhabitants in Tyre, following the ultimatums issued by Amal to the residents of the Burj al-Shamali refugee camp to immediately leave the camp, and notwithstanding the serious efforts and preparations by the Palestinian side to restore normalcy to the camps and to revive the Palestinian-Lebanese nationalist alliance, Amal assassinated 'Umar Zakariyah, an UNRWA teacher, in Tyre the day before yesterday and left his body on the roadside. The PFLP spokesman added that Amal assassinated two Palestinian youths yesterday. He said: The PFLP denounces such ugly crimes and emphasizes that it will defend its people and revolution in Lebanon.

PLO Discusses Location, Deployment of Pilots

NC161112 Paris AFP in English 1009 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Tunis, July 16 (AFP) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has around 200 pilots and aircraft technicians of whom "a very limited number" are serving in Nicaragua and Iraq, a high-ranking PLO official said here Thursday. The official, who asked to remain anonymous, said none of the pilots flew on military missions. The PLO political headquarters has been in the Tunisian capital since 1982. The Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm* had reported Wednesday that 30 PLO pilots were currently serving in Libya, almost 15 others in Nicaragua and that dozens more would shortly be stationed in Iraq. According to the PLO official here, only one Palestinian pilot was still serving in Libya. The number was higher before the 1982 rift between the PLO on one side and Libya and Syria on the other, he said. In Nicaragua, there were on-board engineers and ground technicians, he said. The official gave no details on the number of Palestinian air personnel in Iraq. Some 200 PLO pilots and technicians have been trained in Algeria and Yugoslavia since 1975 but none of them went to training schools in the Soviet Union or other East bloc countries, the official added.

Central Committee Issues General Policy Resolution

LD161301 Algiers Domestic Service in French
1200 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] The latest Central Committee general policy resolution, the 18th, was made public this morning. The main lines are inspired by the speech made by the head of state at the ordinary session held on 30 June in Algiers. The first points are largely about the economy.

All officials are asked to increase their efforts and to demonstrate vigilance and rigor in the application of the decisions of the preceding Central Committee session.

In the agricultural sector the Central Committee recommends pursuing the restructuring of property and giving greater responsibility to producers. In tourism, a bold policy is called for, which will allow for the exploitation of available resources. The Central Committee stresses the need to adopt the national planning system so that economic responsibilities are shared according to the criteria of efficiency and viability. The Central Committee believes that demographic growth constitutes one of the main challenges, which must be faced with determination by all institutions in order to obtain a rational control of the birth rate.

On the international level it is largely the situation in our region that is reviewed. The Central Committee recalls all the steps taken to build the Arab Maghreb, essential stages on the road to the construction of global Arab unity. Recalling the right of the Saharan people to self-determination and the need for direct negotiations between Morocco and the Polisario Front, the Central Committee calls on Morocco's leaders to stop going beyond reality and to show wisdom with a view to ending the bloodshed between brothers. The Central Committee confirms Algeria's adherence to the unity of the Arab Maghreb, which responds to the basic aspirations of the peoples of the region. The Central Committee believes that a union between Algeria and Libya is urgent and corresponds to the logic of history, the demands of the identity of destinies, and the aspirations of the broad popular masses.

Draft Unity Proposal

LD162025 Algiers Domestic Service in French
1830 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] The building of the Great Maghreb is an essential stage on the path toward the construction of global Arab unity. This was reaffirmed by today's Politburo meeting, as well as by the 18th general policy resolution of the FLN Central Committee, the main outlines of which were published today. The resolution was inspired by the speech delivered by the head of state at the ordinary session held on 30 June. This resolution also reaffirmed the Central Committee's adherence to the principle of the Treaty of Fraternity and Concord between Algeria, Tunisia, and Mauritania. In this context, the Central Committee again confirmed, [according to station correspondent] (Daida Moubi), Algeria's willingness to help Morocco and the Polisario Front, which are involved in a dispute, to seek ways of restoring peace and stability in the region.

[Begin (Moubi) recording] In this respect, it reiterated its support for the OAU peace plan adopted by the UN and the Nonaligned Movement, and (?its support) for the mission of good offices by the incumbent OAU president and the UN secretary general. The Central Committee recalled that the right to self-determination of the Saharan people requires direct negotiations between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Polisario Front. [Passage indistinct] material and human potentials having to be devoted to the process of construction and development.

The FLN Central Committee furthermore noted that union between Algeria and Libya [words indistinct] corresponds to the logic of history, the demands of [words indistinct], and the aspirations of the broad popular masses. In this respect the Central Committee expressed satisfaction at the steps taken toward bringing together the necessary conditions for this unity to be established, and decided to submit its draft proposal to the popular masses to be discussed and improved. [words indistinct] The party's secretary general must take, in this respect, the necessary measures. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

Saharan Situation, OAU Summit

LD162049 Algiers Domestic Service in French
1830 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Excerpts] The FLN Politburo met today at the Palace of Nations under the chairmanship of the head of state. [passage omitted]

The Politburo noted, with satisfaction, the government's implementation of the Central Committee decisions on the autonomy of businesses and improvement in management of the agricultural sector, which aim for better control of our economy and greater responsibility in the hands of producers.

The Politburo went on to examine regional and international issues, and particularly reiterated, [according to station correspondent] (Daida Mioubi), Algeria's adherence to the building of the unity of the Great Arab Maghreb, (?which responds to) the basic aspirations of the peoples of the region [words indistinct] great regional gatherings.

[Begin (Mioubi) recording] In this context, it stresses the need for a methodical approach of [words indistinct] responsible with a view to establishing the economic and political material infrastructure necessary for any work of unity that claims to be sound, compact, and reliable. The exploitation of all the economic complementaries available in the region is thus stressed with a view to establishing an integrated Maghreb economy. Finally, an appeal was made for deepening and broadening political dialogue as an essential dimension of [word indistinct].

On the Western Sahara, the Politburo heard a report on the information supplied to Algeria, as an observer, by the incumbent OAU president and the UN secretary general. This information concerned the process of good offices aimed at a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

As to preparations for the next OAU summit, the Politburo assessedthe discussions in Algiers with a view to putting the finishing touches to the national reconciliation in Chad, a recon-

ciliation, it is stressed, which, once achieved, will open up promising vistas for the country's reconstruction, which will facilitate good-neighborly relations in the region. [end recording]

As to other international issues, the conflict in the Gulf, for example, the Politburo renewed Algeria's appeal calling for an end to the war through negotiations.

On the Arab summit, it expressed Algeria's encouragement for the efforts currently being made to convene it. Finally, it expressed satisfaction over the selection of Algeria as the venue of the next conference for Mediterranean members of the Nonaligned Movement.

Habre Affirms Right To Liberate Aouzou Strip

LD152231 Paris International Service in French 2030 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Text] After 2 days of intensive diplomatic activities in France, Chadian President Hissein Habre devoted today to military shopping. Accompanied by Secretary of State for Defense Jacques Boyon, he visited the ACMAT plant in St-Nazaire, Loire-Atlantique department, where all-purpose trucks are built, the same type as those that have already served during the fight for the reconquest of Chad. President Hissein Habre told reporter Christophe Babouille that he wishes to buy more vehicles from ACMAT. He continues to keep his eye firmly on the Aouzou strip:

[Begin Habre recording] This is very good quality equipment, very well adapted to difficult regions such as ours, and I came here to see for myself the place where this equipment is produced and to see also whether there are types we are not familiar with and that Chad might purchase. It is a question of liberating part of our territory, by one means or another, a territory occupied illegally and through the use of arms. It is our absolute right, and our duty, to liberate this part of our territory. [end recording]

2 Opposition Leaders Reach Accord on Mutual Aims

AB142255 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 1830 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Excerpt] An agreement is said to have been reached between the general secretary of the Executive Committee of the Revolutionary Democratic Council, the CDR, and Goukouni Oueddei, the former GUNT leader. According to Rakhis Manani, the agreement reached between the two Chadian opposition leaders is aimed at restoring a lasting and permanent peace in Chad. Let the hearts of Rakhis Manani and Goukouni Oueddei guide their actions.

Even though in Ndjamena, Algiers, other African countries, and even Paris — where the Chadian issue has been a concern — the new alliance has been welcomed, one should not close his eyes to the slow, but laudable reconciliation efforts being made by Goukouni Oueddei for his return to Chad. It is worth stressing that this small group, the CDR, which belongs to the former GUNT of Goukouni Oueddei, favors a peaceful solution to the conflict between Chadian sons and, therefore, to the Chad-Libya conflict. [passage omitted]

IMF Delegation Arrives for Talks on Monetary Program

AB101146 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 10 Jul 87

[Text] An IMF delegation is currently visiting our country. This delegation, which arrived in the Chadian capital yesterday, will hold several rounds of talks with heads of various ministerial departments in our country. Their talks will center on the Chadian Government's structural adjustment program. The IMF delegation will be in our country until 5 July.

Aid, Necessary Reforms Discussed

AB162142 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1330 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Excerpts] An IMF mission has made a 1-week visit to Ndjamena. Since 8 July, IMF administrators and experts from the Ministry of Finance and Computerization have been holding important discussions on ways and means to revamp our country's economy, as many sectors of the national economy need assistance from this international institution. Listen to (Thomas Paploli) explaining to our reporter the real purpose of the mission to Chad:

[Begin recording] We have come here at the request of the Chadian authorities to try to reach an agreement with the Chadian Government on the best way for the IMF to help implement the structural adjustment program worked out by the IMF in 1986. [end recording]

Chad, which has been hard hit by drought, famine, and especially by a (?disastrous) war, must now concentrate its efforts on the development of its economy, many sectors of which have been affected by these scourges. Agriculture and animal husbandry, which play an important role in the country's economy, have been practically destroyed by these persistent calamities. All these points, we hope, have been examined during the IMF-Chad discussions. Are we wrong or right? Listen now to Ngarnayal Mbailemdana, the minister of finance and computerization, who was interviewed this morning by our reporters:.

[Begin recording] We have worked out a global program that has been adopted by the IMF. It has agreed to help us implement the program for 1 year, and as you know, we have been trying for a long time to obtain IMF assistance for our structural adjustment program. This program concerns all the state's sensitive sectors; the administration is to be reorganized and the economy revamped. It is to achieve our goal that we have tried to work out a 1-year program that will be implemented with the IMF's financial assistance. [passage omitted] [end recording]

In fact, the IMF officials have come to Chad with a package of proposals that, according to the head of the mission, requires the Chadian Government to review its budget policy, petroleum product tax reform, and this year's investment budget. [passage omitted].

After 7 days of frank debate on the future of our country, what have the two sides agreed on? Listen to Finance Minister Mbailemdana:

[Begin recording] The World Bank, the IMF, and other financial backers greatly appreciate the efforts being made by the Chadian authorities to make Chad a modern country with a modern economy. [passage omitted] [end recording]

It is widely known that when the IMF enters a country there is trouble, and here is the IMF in our country today. Will the bitter pill also be prescribed for Chad? The answer seems to be yes, but according to the chief of the IMF mission, there will be a change described by the (?IMF) as necessary for a better economic future. According to the minister, the IMF has not imposed its

views on the reorganization of the administration. An agreement has been reached on the extent of this reorganization. Furthermore, the minister said, the Chadian Government has already begun the reorganization of its administration. [passage omitted]

Team Ends Visit, Departs

AB162146 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Excerpt] The IMF mission that arrived in Chad on 8 July has ended its visit to our country and left Ndjamena today. For 1 week, Chadian and IMF experts held important working sessions on ways and means to revamp Chad's economy. [passage omitted]

Libyan Helicopter Defects; Crew Requests Asylum

NC161716 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1706 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 16 Jul (MENA) — A Libyan military helicopter landed at an Egyptian air base in the western region near the Egyptian-Libyan border this evening. The three crew members have asked for political asylum in Egypt.

The Libyan M-8 helicopter, No 8807, entered Egyptian airspace at 1645 today. The three members of the helicopter's crew are Captain Muhammad al-Fahdi, copilot 'Adil Sayyid 'Abd al-Tafi, and Technician Muhammad Shu'ayb Muhammad.

This is the third time this year that a Libyan military aircraft has landed in Egypt with a crew seeking political asylum.

The first aircraft, a C-130 carrying six military personnel including a lieutenant colonel, landed in the Abu Sunbul region on 8 March of this year.

The second, a Chinook helicopter with a crew of three including a lieutenant colonel, landed on 29 March.

'Abd al-Majid on PLO Representation at Peace Talks

NC161533 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has stated that Palestinian representation at an international peace conference is the PLO's right, and it must choose the Palestinian representatives. This issue, he declared, concerns the PLO. In a statement published in the Saudi newspaper *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* today, 'Abd al-Majid said that contacts with all parties are continuing on convening an international conference and that this process requires continual dialogue.

'Abd al-Majid stressed the need for a unified Arab stand on the Palestinian issue. He expressed Egypt's hope that the Iran-Iraq war would come to a close and that the two parties would sit down at the negotiating table. He noted Egypt's full support for steps being taken by the UN secretary general and the Security Council on this matter.

Ambassador to Israel Views 'Abd al-Majid Visit

NC170555 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2130 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 16 Jul (MENA) — Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Muhammad Basyuni departed Cairo tonight for Tel Aviv.

In a predeparture statement, the ambassador said that during his visit to Israel, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid will discuss recent Israeli actions and repressive measures that Israeli authorities have imposed in the occupied Arab territories. He added that 'Abd al-Majid will also discuss the need to end oppression of the Palestinians and to grant them greater political freedom, including freedom of expression, to help prepare an atmosphere conducive to holding an international conference. He noted that Dr 'Abd al-Majid's talks in Israel will not deal with bilateral relations.

As for Israel's stand on the international conference, Ambassador Basyuni commented that there are differences between the Likud and the Alignment Parties on the conference, and that the Israeli Government has not yet adopted a clear stand. But, he added, Egypt is dealing with governments, not individuals. It does not interefere in Israel's domestic affairs, but we instead extend our hands to peace-loving forces. We encourage this trend without interfering in domestic affairs, Basyuni concluded.

President Mubarak Restricts Use of Emergency Law

NC171543 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1445 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 17 Jul (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has issued directives limiting the use of extraordinary measures against any citizen to the absolute minimum. The directives also stipulate that the emergency law shall be applied only when absolutely necessary and in cases with which the ordinary laws are not able to deal.

The Egyptian paper *Al-Ahram* said today that Interior Ministry officials have been instructed to examine the cases of those recently arrested as soon as possible, and to release those who do not pose any danger to public, state, economic, or national security.

A number of detainees who were apprehended in the past under the emergency law are expected to be released in the next few days. *Al-Ahram* also reports it has been decided that should the courts order the release of a detainee the security apparatuses are not to rearrest him after he has been freed.

Abu Ghazalah on Joint Military Maneuvers

NC151610 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Alexandria, 15 Jul (MENA) — Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister, minister of defense and war production, and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, has stated that Egypt keeps a close watch on the situation in the Gulf. He noted that the buildup of tension in the Gulf poses a danger to Arab and Egyptian national security.

After attending a graduation ceremony for two new groups of officers from the Abu Qir Naval College, a journalist asked Abu Ghazalah about a recent report from Khartoum concerning the abrogation of the joint Egyptian-Sudanese defense agreement. Abu Ghazalah replied: We have not been officially notified about this. He then declared that the joint defense agreement is more in Sudan's interest than in Egypt's.

As for the joint maneuvers that the Egyptian Armed Forces conduct with certain friendly countries, Abu Ghazalah stated that our Armed Forces hold joint maneuvers occasionally, perhaps every 2 years. He emphasized that these maneuvers have nothing to do with political, military, or security stands. Instead, they result from an agreement between Egypt and any party that participates in the maneuvers. These maneuvers allow Egypt to benefit from expertise and its forces to become acquainted with new equipment. Abu Ghazalah stated that these joint maneuvers

are very useful and indeed invaluable. He added: When a country asks Egypt to participate in joint maneuvers, we consider how beneficial, in military and scientific terms, these maneuvers will be for our Armed Forces and agree or refuse to participate accordingly. He then referred to previous joint maneuvers, particularly with the special forces, held with Britain and Jordan. The minister declared: We do not refuse to cooperate in these activities, because maneuvers of this type benefit our Armed Forces, raise the level of training, and enable our forces to learn new scientific methods and tactics in using certain equipment. He added: We have no connection with any particular state regarding joint maneuvers and exercises. The choice is made on the basis of what is beneficial to Egypt and furthers its interests.

In noting the modern and sophisticated equipment that will enter service in the Egyptian Navy, Abu Ghazalah commented that while a complete program for this exists, no announcement can be made until the equipment arrives in Egypt. [passage omitted]

Soviet Delegation To Discuss Military Spares

PM161029 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 13 Jul 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Soviet Delegation To Discuss Supplying Egypt With Spare Parts for Soviet Weapons"]

[Text] A high-ranking Soviet military delegation will arrive in Egypt at the end of July to complete military talks that began in Moscow in March. During this visit, agreement is expected to be reached on supplying spare parts for Soviet arms imported by Egypt in the seventies. The delegation will also discuss methods of payment.

Al-Wafd has learned that a high-level Egyptian military delegation will visit the Soviet Union in September for important talks with Soviet officials. Marshal 'Abd al-Halim abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and defense minister, is expected to ask one of the Armed Forces' commanders to lead the delegation.

Government Backs Zambia's Kaunda as OAU Chairman

NC161539 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has declared Egypt's support for Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda's chairmanship of the OAU. This is despite the fact that a number of African countries have contacted Egypt and expressed a desire for President Husni Mubarak to agree to chair the organization. Egypt, he stated, believes President Kaunda must be endorsed and supported so that his chairmanship of the OAU will serve to defend southern Africa and confront the racist Pretoria government's intervention in the Frontline States. [passage omitted]

Sudanese Figure on Ethiopian Taiks, Sidqi Visit

NC170813 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0655 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Excerpts] Cairo, 17 Jul (MENA) — Sudanese Foreign Minister Muhammad Tawfiq Ahmad disclosed that Egypt paved the way for an expected meeting between Sudan's and Ethiopia's leaders during the African summit conference due to convene in Addis Ababa at the end of this month.

In a statement upon his arrival in Cairo for a private visit this morning following his visit to London, the Sudanese foreign minister explained that Egypt believes it is better for it to maintain good relations with Ethiopia to help solve Sudan's crisis with its neighbor. [passage omitted]

Muhammad Tawfiq Ahmad revealed that preparations are currently under way for Egyptian Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi's visit to Sudan, which is expected to begin at the start of October.

Sudanese Trade Minister Dr Ibrahim Hasan 'Abd al-Jalil arrived in Cairo on the same aircraft as the Sudanese foreign minister. The Sudanese trade minister's visit to Egypt comes at the invitation of Dr Yusri Mustafa, the minister of economy and foreign trade. [passage omitted]

Ghali, Delegation Leave for Ethiopia OAU Session

NC170649 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] The Egyptian delegation led by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, departed Cairo early this morning for Addis Ababa. They will attend the OAU foreign ministers conference, scheduled to begin there on Monday.

Dr Ghali stated that the conference will cover several issues, including developments in southern Africa in light of the report prepared by the Committee for the Liberation of Africa and the need to impose economic sanctions against the racist Pretoria regime. The conference also will focus on the economic crisis facing Africa and review coordinating African states' positions on this matter. The conference will additionally review the Palestine issue and the situation in the Middle East. He declared that the Egyptian delegation hopes to secure a unanimous African resolution supporting the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and the convocation of an international Middle East peace conference. The conference will draw up the agenda for the African summit conference, which will begin meeting in the Ethiopian capital on 27 July.

Israeli Deputy Minister Departs Cairo 16 Jul

NC162051 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2042 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 16 Jul (MENA) — Shmu'el Pohoryles, Israeli deputy minister of agriculture, left Cairo for Tel Aviv tonight following the end of his several-day visit to Egypt.

Oil Minister Returns From Far East Tour 16 Jul

NC162021 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2010 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 16 Jul (MENA) — 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, returned to Cairo tonight following the end of a 1-week visit that took him to Malaysia and Singapore. [passage omitted]

FLN Central Committee Endorsement of Union Noted

LD161733 Tripoli JANA in English
1650 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Algiers, Nasir [July] 16, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The Central Committee of the National Liberation Front's Party (NLF) of Algeria asserted the belief of the political leadership in sisterly Algeria in the need to continue the relentless work towards laying the foundations of unity on firm bases which will not be affected by passing events.

In the endorsement bill approved by the Central Committee at the end of its 18th ordinary session held on 30 Al-Sayf [June] month 1987, it said: "The steps taken until now to accomplish a union between Great Jamahiriyah and Algeria have provided the subjective conditions to establish such union according to the people's will in both sisterly countries".

It also asserted that the union between Great Jamahiriyah will not be subjected to the variables, but is a question of inevitability that responds to the logic of history.

The Central Committee decided in its bill to put the union project's document to the logic of history.

The Central Committee decided in its bill to put the union project's document to the popular bases in Algeria for the purpose of discussing it and fully debate it. It [word indistinct] recommendation to its general secretary to take the necessary measures for that. It also recommended that contacts and consultations be carried out with Arab Maghreb leaderships on unity matters.

It reaffirmed that the future of the Arab nation is dependent on its ability to plan a unified strategy to confront all challenges.

Jallud Receives Municipal Committee Officials

LD161522 Tripoli JANA in English
1415 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Tripoli, Nasir [July] 16, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud has met with the secretariat of the General People's Congresses, the General People's Committee, the secretaries of the People's Congresses and the People's Committees of the Municipalities.

BBC Arabic Broadcasts No Longer Appear Jammed

LD170059 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English
2323 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Libya appears to have stopped jamming BBC broadcasts from London in Arabic, leaving only broadcasts in Polish being jammed on a regular basis the BBC said early today. The Libyans began jamming the BBC's Arabic service in April, when Libyan troops fighting Chad Government forces in that country's long-running civil war began to suffer heavy defeats, a spokesman for the BBC External Services, based at Bush House in London, said. The jamming, which had been traced to a site outside Tripoli, now appeared to have ended.

"Jamming is very expensive and quite clearly, the Chad situation has now been defused. As far as the Libyans are concerned the problem appears to have gone away."

The Russians stopped jamming BBC broadcasts in Russian in January, in a move associated with the liberalisations introduced by the Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev. But they continue to jam, from inside the Soviet Union, BBC broadcasts in Polish. The only other jamming of BBC broadcasts is now carried out by the Iraqis, who occassionally block broadcasts in Arabic.

King Receives Algerian Foreign Minister 11 Jul
LD120103 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
2300 GMT 11 Jul 87

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II received this evening at the royal palace in Casablanca Mr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, minister of foreign affairs in the Algerian Government, who was accompanied by the director of the Political Department of the Foreign Ministry. The meeting was attended by Abdellatif Filali, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and his majesty's adviser Ahmed Ridha Guidera.

King Hassan Departs for Official Visit to Britain
LD131648 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Hassan II, may God grant him victory, left Rabat-Sale Airport at about 1340 this afternoon for London, with God's protection, on an official visit to Britain which is to last from 14 to 17 July. [passage omitted]

His majesty is accompanied on this visit by HRH Moulay Rachid and HRH Princess Lalla Asma. His majesty is also accompanied by a delegation composed of Ahmed Osmane, speaker of the House of Representatives; Moulay Ahmed Abaoui, minister of state; Abdellatif Filali, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; Ahmed Reda Guedira, adviser of his majesty the king; Moulay Abdelhafid Alaoui, minister of royal household, protocol and chancellery; Khalid Bouchentouf; Abdelfettah Fredj; General Mohamed Kabbaj, inspector of the Royal Air Force; and Abdeslam Znined, his majesty's ambassador to Britain.

Recent 'Khomeyniite' Disturbances Detailed
LD162304 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
2200 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] We have learned from an authorized source that a number of persons belonging to a Khomeyniite secret organization yesterday demonstrated in some Tunis streets and attempted to commit disturbances and acts of chaos on the public highway.

These persons used various means of violence and sabotage, including incendiary mixtures, iron balls, knives, and curved nails, in addition to huge quantities of stones.

The actions' organizers chose the end of the workday — when workers leave for home and fill the streets — as the time to carry out their activities, spread chaos, and disturb public order in their futile attempt to gain the man in the street's sympathy.

We also learned from the same source that this demonstration was characterized by sharpness and prejudice against the government's forces. This was obvious both from the manner in which the perpetrators prepared their violent tactics and from their desire for conflict with the security forces.

These disturbances resulted in various injuries to eight security officers. They were then immediately taken to one of the capital's hospitals. Material damage also occurred, particularly the complete burning of a security forces' vehicle and the destruction of a number of other car windows. One demonstrator was wounded.

The same source pointed out that the security forces' intervention in dispersing the demonstrators was again marked by their skill and calm, which explains the disparity between the number of injured on each side and also by the security forces' desire to distingusih between demonstrators and passersby.

The security units were able to subdue the disturbances and disperse demonstrators in a short time. They additionally succeeded in detaining a number of the demonstration's leaders as well as members of the Khomeyniite group.

The authorized source stressed that the man in the street refused to cooperate with the saboteurs in participating in disturbances.

The same source called on citizens to leave the scene in the event of similar demonstrations. This will assist the security forces and allow them to intervene to the degree called for by the situation.

KUWAIT

Ministry Issues Statement on 15 Jul Explosion

LD161617 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1542 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Kuwait, 16 July (KUNA) — A communique issued by the Kuwaiti Interior Ministry states that last night's explosion behind a commercial complex in Al-Salihiyyah district in Kuwait resulted in the death of the two persons who intended to plant the explosive charge.

The communique says the two dead persons are Musa Salih Musa al-'Attar, a Kuwaiti, and it is believed the second person is Mahdi Salih Salman al-'Attar, also a Kuwaiti. The communique adds that the preliminary investigations have initially established that they were "killed as they were trying to plant the explosive charge." However, God's care and grace turned their wicked act against them when the explosive charge went off, which led to their death."

Syria Reportedly Mediates Oil Tanker Issue

JN170746 Abu Dahbi WAM in Arabic 0716 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 17 Jul (WAM) — The newspaper *Al-Ittihad* today cited a Lebanese political source close to Damascus as saying that the official and public flying of the U.S. flag on 11 Kuwaiti oil tankers is awaiting the results of mediation with Tehran by Damascus to avoid a military confrontation between Iran and the United States.

The source pointed out that Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar's visit to the Iranian capital Tehran and his subsequent visits to Riyadh and Kuwait were within this framework. The source also pointed out that the reflagging is also awaiting the issuance of a cease-fire resolution by the UN Security Council.

PDRY

Energy Minister Leaves for Talks in Moscow

EA161934 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Brother Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun, member of the YSP Central Committee, deputy prime minister, and minister for energy and minerals, left Aden this morning for Moscow on a working visit at the head of a governmental delegation. The ANA has learned that during their visit to Moscow the delegates will hold talks with the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Trade Relations and the Ministry of Geology on ways of consolidating and developing economic and technical cooperation in the spheres of oil and minerals.

In reply to an ANA representative's question on the progress of exploitation [word indistinct] of results and successes achieved by the oil prospecting operations in the governorate of Shabwah in cooperation with the USSR, Brother Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun said that at the end of their talks in Moscow the delegation will sign an agreement on exploitation of the deposits discovered in the governorate of Shabwah. Under the agreement, the USSR will lay a pipeline from the production fields to the port of export and construct the related oil installations.

Brother Husaynun commended the developing cooperation between Democratic Yemen and the USSR in the spheres of oil and minerals. He said intensive and extensive work will soon be done which will have positive and tangible effects on the national economy and the people's livelihood. This confirms the firmness and credibility of intimate, militant, and clear relations between the two friendly parties and countries which are linked by the 1979 friendship and cooperation treaty and guided by the great ideologies of scientific socialism and proletarian internationalism.

Present at the airport to bid him farewell was Brigadier Salih Munassar al-Siyayli, member of the YSP Political Bureau, deputy prime minister, and minister of the interior, and a number of officials of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals.

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

'Abd al-Ghani Comments on Economy, Unity With PDRY

PM170923 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 15-22 Jul 87 pp 15, 16

[Interview with Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani by Wahib Muhammad Ghurab in Sanaa — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Ghurab] How big is the deficit in the budget of the second plan? And will the third plan be able to cover the deficit?

['Abd al-Ghani] We depended on domestic and foreign resources to finance our previous plans. With regard to the Second 5-Year Plan, the volume of investments was approximately 25 billion riyals, a large proportion of which was foreign financing from Arab and regional funds or international establishments like the World Bank and others. This financing was for government and public projects. As for private sector projects, financing was internal, mostly local.

[Ghurab] How long will the government continue to rely on foreign financing and remittances from [Yemenis] abroad to cover its budgets?

['Abd al-Ghani] Being a developing country we will remain in need of foreign financing. Thank God, so far we have not involved ourselves in foreign trade financing, since we still depend on loans on easy terms. Because of our position, we are qualified to obtain very low-interest loans and settle them over a long period of 40 to 50 years. As for remittances from abroad, they are the principal source of our hard currency needs. Our resources are many, but our export capabilities are limited and insufficient to cover the cost of imported commodities and equipment. We are now trying to gradually dispense with the outside world by developing various resources, especially agricultural and industrial resources. Nevertheless, we will remain in need of foreign support. I believe that when we begin to export oil, this will limit our reliance on remittances from abroad.

[Ghurab] What is the true number of Yemenis abroad? How much have their remittances dropped? And what has been the impact on the Yemeni economy?

['Abd al-Ghani] There are over 1 million Yemenis abroad, mostly in Saudi Arabia, which they consider their country because of the deep and special relationship between the two fraternal countries. As for remittances, they have reached an annual maximum of 1.6 billion dollars and a minimum of 500 million dollars, as happened last year. This drop had a considerable impact and was reflected in our foreign transactions. Therefore, we were forced to take a series of measures to rationalize foreign trade.

[Ghurab] What is the size of the reduction in non-Arab international aid?

['Abd al-Ghani] We chiefly depend on the aid we receive from the Arab states and their funds. There is also non-Arab aid, which is being maintained, namely loans from the World Bank and its outlets as well as loans from other world states. [passage omitted]

[Ghurab] What is the latest in the field of oil exploration?

['Abd al-Ghani] Latest reports are positive, and research and exploration operations are still being carried out. We are about to complete the installation of the pipeline to pump oil from the fields to the export port. This will be achieved within a few months, after which exports will begin. [passage omitted]

[Ghurab] What truth is there in the announcement that a sabotage group was discovered whose objective was to strike at Yemen's stability?

['Abd al-Ghani] All that I can say is that investigations are being conducted and that facts will be made known when investigations are completed.

[Ghurab] Is there anything new regarding efforts to unite the two parts of Yemen? And will meetings be held in the near future?

['Abd al-Ghani] Unity is the fate and destiny of our people in both parts; it is a historical necessity which must, sooner or later, be realized, since its establishment would be a source of prosperity, security, and stability at regional, Arab, and international levels. The Joint Constitutional Committee has actually completed a draft constitution for unity and there remain only procedures necessary for endorsement, namely referring it to the presidents of the two parts for endorsement, and then to the People's Assemblies in the two countries; a popular referendum on it is then to be held in both parts. Meetings are continuing between the two parts through joint committees.

[Ghurab] Do you believe the new developments in the southern part have affected efforts aimed at achieving unity?

['Abd al-Ghani] What happened in the southern part of the homeland was an internal affair. Our position, since the incidents took place there, has been to contain these incidents and help our brothers stop the fighting. We have called upon them to overcome the problems that caused the incidents. We are still seeking to bring viewpoints closer among our brothers, the sons of the southern part of the homeland. As for unity between us, it is, as I have said, a popular objective in both parts and the achievement of it would restore the integrity of the parts. This is a question that is not subject to or affected by any factors. When the time is ripe, nothing will stand in its way.

[Ghurab] How do view inter-Arab relations? And is there anything new in this regard?

['Abd al-Ghani] Inter-Arab relations are passing through a phase of fluctuation. When pan-Arab interests are a priority and each state works for the sake of its people and to achieve its objectives; when relations are based on comprehensive pan-Arab aspirations of the sons of the Arab nation; and when Arab differences are solved in response to the peoples' desire, then Arab action will proceed collectively and benefit the Arab peoples and future generations. I believe there is now a need more than ever to hold an Arab summit. [passage omitted]

Salih, Bangladesh's Ershad Hold Talks in Sanaa

JN161445 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Excerpts] — Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received in his office this evening, Hussain Mohammad Ershad, president of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. The two leaders discussed bilateral relations. They also reviewed methods to promote ties in the mutual interest of the Yemeni and Bangladesh peoples. A number of international and Islamic issues of mutual concern were also discussed.

During the meeting, the Bangladesh president expressed his thanks for the hospitality accorded to him and his accompanying delegation. He also affirmed his country's desire to promote its relations with our country. Members of both delegations to the bilateral talks attended the meeting.

A session of official talks was held this evening between our country and Bangladesh. The Yemeni side was headed by Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress. Bangladesh President Ershad headed the Bangladesh side. President Salih welcomed the great guest and his accompanying delegation. He pointed out that this meeting will enable both sides to review all issues in the interest of both Yemeni and Bangladesh peoples. [passage omitted]

President Salih stated that our country has adopted a firm, principled policy in dealing with the fraternal and friendly countries. He said this stand is based on nonalignment, and that our country is active in the Nonaligned Movement. This is because the policy of nonalignment is our principled political stand. We do not discriminate against any country. President Salih also affirmed our country's stand toward the Iraq-Iran war. The YAR calls for an end to this war because it is a losing war. This conflict drains the human and material resources of the two countries.

He added: We appreciate Iraq's positive response and stand to stop this war. We always call on officials in Iran to respond and stop this war. The continuation of this war serves only the enemies of Islamic countries and those states which produce and export weapons. In conclusion, the YAR president reiterated his welcome to the Bangladesh president and his accompanying delegation. He asserted our country's readiness to promote and enhance its relations with Bangladesh. He pointed out that there are many aspects of bilateral cooperation that will serve the interests of the two Muslim peoples.

The Bangladesh president thanked President Salih for the hospitality accorded to him and his accompanying delegation. He said: We in Bangladesh admire the progress that has been achieved in Yemen. We greatly appreciate Your Excellency acquainting us with the pioneering experiment in Yemen. I pray to God that this experiment will attain the aspirations of the Yemeni people.

The Bangladesh president also affirmed his country's desire to promote its relations with our country. He stressed that his visit will create the right atmosphere for examining ways to promote these relations. The president acquainted President Salih and members of our delegation with the aspects of the political experiment in Bangladesh. He pointed out that Bangladesh is an active member of the Nonaligned Movement and the ICO and said: We are trying to play an effective role in these organizations as well as in all international organizations. He clarified that Bangladesh has worked relentlessly to stop the Iraq-Iran war but its efforts ended in failure due to Iran's rejection. He affirmed that the Islamic states should do their utmost to stop this war. In conclusion, the Bangladesh president extended an invitation to President Salih to visit Bangladesh. He also repeated his thanks for the cordial weclome and reception which he and his accompanying delegation received during this visit. Ershad expressed confidence that this visit will greatly expand bilateral relations with the YAR. He wished our people continued prosperity.

The meeting was attended on the YAR side by 'Abd al- 'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and Standing Committee member; Dr Muhammad Sa'id al-'Attar, deputy prime minister, planning minister, head of the Central Organ of Planning, and Standing Committee member; Lieutenant Colonel 'Abdallah Husayn al-Bashiri, chief of staff and Standing Committee member; 'Ali al-Salman, Aqwaf and guidance minister; Muhammad al-Khadim al-Wajih, minister of economy, supply, and trade and Standing Committee member; 'Ali Muhammad al- 'Anisi, director of the President's Office and Standing Committee member; Muhammad al-Khalidi, the president's secretary; Ahmad al-Iryani, Foreign Ministry under secretary; and Fathi Salim, deputy head of the Central Organ of Planning.

The talks were attended on the Bangladesh side by M.A. Mannan, minister of religious affairs; Eng Mohammad Abdul Jabbar and (Qadi Shah Motabbal Hussain), members of parliament; (Hidayat Ahmad), Bangladesh ambassador in Sanaa; Aminul Islam, under secretary of the Ministry of Labor and Manpower; and (Harun al-Rashid), assistant under secretary of the Foreign Ministry. [passage omitted]

Communique No 2,746 on Gulf War Issued 16 Jul
JN161807 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1718 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Communique No 2,746 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 16 July 1987]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The following is a roundup of our units' activities for last night and today:

1. Our bold helicopter gunships carried out a series of daring raids against enemy forces, inflicting death on their remnants and destroying their equipment and positions over 28 combat missions. Our helicopter gunships then returned safely to base in God's care and protection.

2. Four enemy boats, in addition to infantry formations backed by artillery, sought to approach our forward units' positions in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris. The courageous VI Army Corps heroes met them with various types of weapons and succeeded in annihilating a large portion of the enemy force in no-man's-land. No scoundrels survived except for those who fled. In the same sector, our units captured the following weapons in addition to some hardware and equipment the vile Khomeyniites had abandoned in previous battles: 82 Kalashnikov rifles, 3 sniping rifles, 2 GC [not further identified] rifles, 6 RPG-7 launchers, 8 medium machineguns, 4 60-mm mortars, 4 radio sets, and 3 night-vision sets.

3. Our units in the I Army Corps northern sector pounded several enemy sources of fire and succeeded in silencing them. Other units in the same sector inflicted the following losses on the enemy: one bulldozer and one vehicle, a number of infantry positions, a weapons emplacement, and an observation post while killing or wounding their occupants. They also detonated two ammunition dumps and captured three Kalashnikov rifles and some hardware.

4. Three scoundrels were killed and two ammunition dumps were blown up in the II Army Corps central sector.

5. An enemy machinegun, two observation posts, and a weapons emplacement were destroyed in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

6. An aggressor was killed, two others were wounded, and an ammunition dump was destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

7. The cowardly Khomeyniites, using long-range artillery, shelled residential quarters in the steadfast city of Basra. The enemy shelling injured three civilians and damaged a number of civilian houses and property. May our wounded have a speedy recovery, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 July 1987

USSR 'To Examine' Possible Soviet Jewish Tourism

TA170510 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Jul 87 pp 1, 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Benny Morris]

[Text] The Soviet Union has "agreed to examine" the possibility of allowing Soviet Jewish tourism to Israel, knowledgeable sources said in Jerusalem yesterday.

The request to allow such tourism — which could promote aliyah — was made last week by West German President Richard von Weizsaecker during his visit to Moscow. The Soviets, it has been learned, said that the matter "required study" but did not reject the notion out of hand.

The German president discussed the Soviet Jewry issue with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres shortly before his visit to Moscow.

Observers suggest that such tourism could be facilitated by the establishment of a direct civil air link between Moscow and Tel Aviv, an idea recently raised by various Israeli and European officials in the hope of increasing Soviet Jewish emigration in general and in decreasing the proportion of dropouts from among those leaving the Soviet Union.

These sources also disclosed that Foreign Minister Peres received a secret message from Moscow a few days before last week's Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva, in which the Russians said that the direct Soviet-Israeli political dialogue would be resumed next month.

This message was referred to by Soviet Foreign Ministry official Vladimir Polyakov in his talks in Geneva with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy when the two men discussed the possibilities of convening an international conference for Middle East peace. Murphy had apparently suggested to Polyakov that the Soviets and Israel should get together and discuss directly Israel's two conditions concerning Soviet participation in the conference — that the Soviets open wider their gates to Jewish emigration and that they reestablish diplomatic relations with Israel.

Polyakov replied that the Soviets were about to re-open the direct dialogue with Israel and referred Murphy to the secret message to Peres.

It is not clear in Jerusalem what manner of negotiating framework the Soviets are contemplating, but the possibility of meetings between the two countries' foreign ministers is not discounted.

Observers in Jerusalem suggested that the heads of the Soviet "consular" delegation currently in Israel might at some point next month be empowered by Moscow to embark on political negotiations with Israel regarding the international conference, Soviet Jewish emigration and the reestablishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries.

Shamir Criticizes Egyptian Invitation to Waldheim

TA161615 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has criticized the invitation extended by Egypt to Austrian President Kurt Waldheim. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that Mr Shamir believes the Arab countries are wooing Waldheim and wish to confer honor upon him, thereby attacking and condemning Israel. Mr Shamir said the countries that invite the Austrian president need a stage from which to express their hostility toward Israel. One example of this is the anti-semitic press articles in Jordan, which Waldheim recently visited. Mr Shamir affirmed that he will discuss Waldheim's invitation to Egypt with Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid during his visit to Jerusalem in 4 days.

Shamir Ready To Meet Husayn, Other Arab Leaders

TA161238 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1230 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that he wants to meet with King Husayn and that he is also prepared to meet with any Arab leader no matter what views they might have. In a meeting with members of the American Jewish Congress, Mr Shamir noted that if Jordan is not ready to sit and negotiate with Israel today, it will be prepared to hold direct negotiations tomorrow or the day after that.

The prime minister asserted that all the numbers which spell dread for us with regard to the demographic problem in Israel are imaginary; the demographic problem did not arise in 1967 and will not be solved by handing over territory, he stressed.

Shim'on Peres Interviewed on Peace Efforts

TA161728 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Studio interview with Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, by political correspondents Me'ir Kohen and 'Anan Safdi — live in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles]

[Excerpts] [Kohen] Mr Peres, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid is scheduled to visit Israel next week. This is perhaps the first visit by an Egyptian foreign minister since 1982. Does this visit have special significance in light of this period of political activity?

[Peres] I think that this visit is very important. It shows that we have resumed working together for peace, for a comprehensive peace in the Middle East; that we are capable of working together. The visit will also give us an opportunity to clarify rather important issues between Egypt and ourselves in a bilateral way.

[Kohen] Are there specific subjects to be discussed during the talks?

[Peres] No. Such visits include matters that each side may want to raise. However, it is not difficult to guess that we will certainly

devote a significant portion of the time to developments in the Middle East, to ways to promote the peace process, and to ways in which cooperation between Egypt and Israel in the agricultural sphere, as well as other areas, can be expanded — according to the degree of interest Egypt displays.

[Safdi] Will the visit help to strengthen you and your party, at least in part?

[Peres] I have a big secret for you. I have no private business here. What do you mean by strengthen me? Is peace my own private business? It is the business of the entire people and country. If the visit strengthens the peace process, I think that the whole nation should welcome it.

[Kohen] Mr Peres, it is known that you initiated a meeting between the Egyptian foreign minister and the prime minister. Will this meeting be for the purpose of mutual persuasion?

[Peres] It will be a meeting during which views will be exchanged. Distance, you know, also creates illusions. When people meet face to face, they suddenly see that they are not dealing with the devil, that the subject is not a nightmarish one or so bad. People sit and talk and can ultimately even reach an understanding.

[Kohen] But the positions are completely opposite.

[Peres] Were everything agreed upon, there would be no need to hold talks. I know the positions are polarized, but such were the positions on the Tabah issue, the matter of Lebanon, and even the economy; when we set out, it seemed that most of the ministers were opposed.

[Safdi] With your permission, I would like to return to your latest meeting with President Mubarak. Did anything new emerge from the meeting? Will you pull another document out of your sleeve?

[Peres] I think that in many respects the meeting between Mubarak and myself was exceptionally good, because of the friendliness, frankness, and seriousness displayed, and because a large degree of agreement about the peace process was reached. When President Mubarak and I met this March, we said that 1987 would be a year of peace. Since then, several things have happened. The atmosphere throughout the Middle East today is totally different from anything we have experienced in 39 years — in the style, manner of talk, the attempt to find ways to bring the positions closer to each other, and in the facts that have been created. I know this is a very difficult subject, but I was very, very pleased with the large degree of understanding, frankness, and friendliness that characterized this meeting.

[Kohen] From your talk with President Mubarak, what were your impressions of his position on the Palestinian issue, for example?

[Peres] I think that President Mubarak believes the PLO should accept the conditions laid down by Jordan; it would then be able to play a role — as he, not I, perceives it. Nevertheless, my feeling is that a deep friendship has developed between Mubarak and King Husayn and, ultimately, if Egypt has to choose between the Jordanian position and that of the PLO, it will choose the former.

[Safdi] Mr Peres, in view of the meetings you held with President Mubarak and other figures in Geneva, can the document — called the 6-point document or the London document — achieved between Israel and Jordan serve as a foundation for your aspiration for direct negotiations with regard to the nature of the conference and Palestinian participation?

[Peres] I do not want to confirm all the meetings you have mentioned, for you are trying to force me to address many matters which I may or may not be permitted or forbidden to divulge, or to say whether or not they are true. I will only refer to the document. My answer is definitely, yes. The Americans told me that in their meeting with the Soviets, the Soviets were surprised by the large degree of understanding prevailing in the Middle East, and they were certainly referring to the 6-point document. The document begins as follows: The objective is comprehensive peace; the way to achieve this is through direct negotiations; the means is the international conference, the international opening.

[Safdi] Do you anticipate any move by the monarch or [FRG Chancellor Helmut] Kohl — another step that would reinforce your adherence to this document?

[Peres] I think that there are two things currently on the agenda in order of priority: first, if possible, to reach an agreement with the Soviet Union — and the United States is primarily dealing with this, although the Soviets have announced that they intend to renew the dialogue with us next month, particularly on the two subjects which affect us directly; second, Israel must reach a decision. I repeat, and not for the first time, that I would prefer that we all, both the Alignment and the Likud, move together toward peace negotiations. I do not think that peace is a matter for one party; peace is a matter for the entire nation. Nevertheless, one cannot say the desire to work together would still exist if this joint action were to lead to a halt, a freeze in the process.

Many people have forgotten that in the Camp David talks, for example, the nation was divided. There was not a national consensus; and, in fact, without the support of the decisive majority in the Alignment for the Camp David accords, they would not have been passed by the Knesset. Therefore, a decision must be reached, but it would be preferable to go together in the correct direction. To go together in the wrong direction would not be gaining anything; one would only be mistaken and be moving in the wrong direction. So there are two aspects: united action and direction. If one has to choose between the two, naturally direction is what is important.

[Kohen] As for King Husayn, can one assume he has adopted a waiting position; that is, he is awaiting results from here?

[Peres] Husayn has remarked several times on this matter of late; and not only him, but also Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and the Jordanian media. The tone expressing reservations about this process has disappeared. They are, of course, addressing their own public; they are not speaking in Hebrew or to Israelis; they are speaking in Arabic to the Arab world. And as for all the stories about meetings and so on, neither excitement nor opposition could be discerned in the Arab world. The atmosphere is

different. My impression is that Jordan has remained stable in its positions. There has been no withdrawal from what the Americans have described as positions agreeable to several countries in the Middle East.

[Safdi] Do you expect King Husayn to make any move to strengthen your claims?

[Peres] No, I think that the facts I brought home with me are sufficiently clear, and a decision must be reached. I do not see what there is to clarify. We are talking about direct negotiations, based on UN Resolutions 242 and 338, without preconditions, which would begin by means of an international conference. What is unclear here?

[Safdi] With all that has been said about moves and processes, how does your approach differ from Camp David?

[Peres] The problem is not Camp David. Jordan cannot accept Camp David. The problem does not lie with me; I can manage with Camp David. The difficulty in any negotiations lies in the fact that there is another party. Were negotiations possible without the other side, believe me, they could be concluded in a flash. Jordan said: I was not invited to Camp David; thus, I am not a partner to the decisions, I am not prepared to accept the Camp David title. Negotiations with Jordan must be conducted without such a title. Naturally, Israel can raise ideas that were raised at Camp David.

[Kohen] What then are you proposing to the monarch?

[Peres] I am proposing the same negotiations without preconditions. If I start detailing the conditions, I would be making the same mistake we keep on repeating: conducting negotiations with ourselves.

[Safdi] Is this not less than what was stated in Camp David?

[Peres] What is stipulated in the Camp David accords is certainly being proposed; there is no dispute about this. Even expressions such as recognizing the legitimate rights of the Palestinians or solving the Palestinian problem in its entirety, which are included in the U.S. document, are borrowed from Camp David.

[Kohen] Mr Peres, do you believe King Husayn is presently capable of implementing the main condition: forming a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation without the PLO?

[Peres] In my opinion, yes. Many Palestinians, including leaders, have grown tired of waiting for the PLO, and they have said so in public. At the time when Jordan was talking to the PLO, five Palestinian candidates were proposed for the joint delegation. Among them were Hanna Sinyurah and Abu Rahmah, and I said on the spot that I agree to both them. Then people in Israel said that Hanna Sinyurah was a representative of the PLO and the like. I do not hand out certificates for integrity or make people sign affidavits. The fact is that Hanna Sinyurah had the courage to come up with his own proposal which aroused a great deal of interest and reverberation, both positive and negative, and he did this of his own accord. In other words, there are also Palestinians who, for the good of their people and the good of peace, are apparently prepared to take the necessary steps.

[Safdi] However, we have still not heard anything about such a list or delegation.

[Peres] It is still too early. Let us wait and see on this matter.

[Kohen] Sir, you talk about extensive support for your initiative to promote peace, both from the West and from several Arab countries such as Egypt, Jordan, and Morocco, while here you have no support in the government, the Inner Cabinet, or the Knesset. What do you plan to do?

[Peres] First of all, let us be precise. The situation in the government is 50-50. What do you mean by no support? The government is split in two.

[Kohen] That means there is no majority.

[Peres] Yes, there is neither a majority for nor against. This we knew; this is the nature of the government and does not surprise me. As for the nation, it is a sovereign one and it will decide. If the government cannot decide, then the people must do so. I would prefer for the government to decide; I have already said that I would prefer to go with the Likud into negotiations. This, in my opinion, is preferable; it is difficult, but better. Just as we withdrew from Lebanon, and as we did in the Tabah case, although this started out as a 50-50 situation as well. Now when the matter is referred to the people, they will decide; I hope that they will provide the mandate to examine the possibility of emerging from the cycle of war, to remove the country from the danger of war. Jewish, Arab, Druze, Jordanian, and Palestinian children have mothers, and mothers are something universal. I am sure every nation feels the time has come to examine seriously the possibility of living without hatred, without terrorism, without murder, without shooting, and without wasting millions and millions of dollars on more and more fighter planes.

[Safdi] The Likud's position is: My reply to you is no; take it or leave it. What is your reaction?

[Peres] I don't take no for an answer.

[Safdi] It seems that you are neither taking nor leaving. Actually, it is difficult to say that you are not taking or leaving; you are taking it, you are accepting it. You are not doing anything; an impasse has formed.

[Peres] Why do you say an impasse has formed? There is constantly...

[Safdi, interrupting] My opinion is that there is no progress.

[Peres] There is constant progress. The Americans met with theSoviets; there is progress in the Soviet position. 'Abd al-Majid is coming to Israel. President Mubarak commented in favor of direct negotiations within an international conference. Early elections might also be decided on in Israel. The situation is constantly changing.

[Kohen] Mr Peres, you spoke about approaching the people. In order to do this, the Knesset must be dissolved. Do you have a majority in the Knesset in order to hold elections? And if so, when?

[Peres] We will wait until next week and then see. The parliamentary situation is unclear; I have known this all along. The Tehiya announced a long time ago that it is in favor of early elections, although for reasons completely different from ours. I think that for the good of the nation, early elections are necessary because we are already in the midst of an election campaign. To conduct an election campaign for 1 and 1/2 years is too expensive. As regards the economic situation, too, we have reached stability. Instead of taking another year in which a fortune would be spent on elections, I think it would be better to hold elections now.

I went to Mr Shamir and said: You say that you are afraid an international conference would put pressure on Israel. First of all, remember, an international conference has already been held in the past and what pressure did it put on us? He says that was something else. I say, you know what, let us sit down together, take a piece of paper, and write down what conference you do agree to and what kind you object to. I want it to be perfectly clear that my objective is the peace process, and not elections. Elections are only when there is no choice and only for show. If we could make progress in the peace process as we did on the Tabah issue, Lebanon, or the territories, I would definitely prefer it.

[Safdi] Could you give us an estimation as to when early elections would be held?

[Peres] No. I will not give you an estimation. Why should I? Later you would ask me what happened to your estimation? I am not a prophet; I do not control all the parties in Israel. There are several political bodies in Israel that swing from one place to the other. How can I forecast what will be? [passage omitted]

[Safdi] On another matter, a Soviet delegation is currently visiting. Your tendency in the beginning was to lessen the importance of the delegation's mission. *The New York Times*, on the other hand, wrote totally different things yesterday. That paper made an interesting assessment: that the visit could open gates and bring about the renewal of relations between the Soviet Union and Israel, and that it could bring about greater Soviet involvement in the peace efforts in the Middle East.

[Peres] I am not *The New York Times*. What happened is that when the Soviets approached us initially and asked permission for a delegation to come, we sent a delegation to Helsinki. And we placed such a heavy burden on this small delegation that the whole thing collapsed. We might have made a mistake then, when we exaggerated the importance of the delegation. But the Soviets approached us again. Incidentally, when they did approach us, denials appeared in the press to the effect that they had not approached us. We are in a strange situation here. They approached us and we said: All right, we will grant you visas, welcome you courteously; you want to describe your delegation as one with limited importance, so be it. You say the delegation has a low profile, so be it. Now, if the Soviets want to attach more importance to the delegation, let them do it; I do not have to inflate the importance of the delegation beyond what the Soviets themselves say. We must be courteous, maintain the correct proportions, avoid jumping to conclusions, and not go overboard.

[Kohen] And if we decide to send an Israeli delegation to the Soviet Union, will the Soviets agree?

[Peres] Yes, I believe so. Why not?

[Kohen] They said they would not agree.

[Peres] They said that this delegation would not come.

[Safdi] In light of the talks held in Geneva between Richard Murphy and [Vladimir] Polyakov, what is your impression of the Soviet position on the peace process, an international conference, and the PLO?

[Peres] In all honesty, I feel that there is a contradiction in the Soviet position. On the one hand, they want to take advantage of the opportunities that develop in the Middle East and gain some regional, local profit; on the other hand, the Gorbachev government, with its glasnost, is displaying a tendency toward international responsibility. Thus, there is a difference between the sounds emerging from Moscow and the activity in the Middle East; such a contradiction exists. I hope their international responsibility will grow, because the Soviets, in their meeting with Al-Asad, also asked: How long will we continue to waste money on arms? What will be gained from all the wars? On the positive side, I can also say that Gorbachev said it is abnormal not to have diplomatic relations with Israel.

[Safdi] That was in the meeting with Al-Asad.

[Peres] Yes, with Al-Asad. These are logical remarks, and indeed, the Soviets should ask themselves what they are gaining by spending so much on more and more weapons. Who likes them any better? Therefore, the matter should be followed. A certain openness was evident in the meeting between Polyakov and Murphy; I cannot say that they were in full agreement, not yet. We, both the Arabs and the Jews, I am sure, both the Jordanians and Israel, will never agree that Soviets and Americans decide for us, conduct negotiations in our place, no matter how powerful they may be. Every nation has its own sovereignty, its own honor. If the Soviets and the Americans wish to help, they are welcome. But they cannot take our place; we are not puppets. [passage omitted]

Sharon Offers Alternative to Peres Peace Plan

TA161820 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon today raised a proposal for the attainment of a political settlement with Jordan as an alternative to Shim'on Peres' idea of an international conference. Sharon maintains that it is necessary to find a way to meet Husayn in secret after the Alignment and the Likud have worked out a plan on the nature of the proposed political settlement. Sharon made this proposal in an address to a forum of

building contractors and architects in Tel Aviv. Our correspondent Meron Tzur has an excerpt of his remarks:

[Begin recording][Sharon] It is now necessary to set a target date, let us say of 1 month, by which two ministers — one from the Alignment and another from the Likud — or two and two, or possibly even the entire Inner Cabinet will work hand in hand with a group of specialists to find the broadest possible national consensus over the content and essence of the arrangements; namely, the kind of settlements Israel can afford in terms of its existence and security.

[Tzur] Once the partners to the plan reach an agreement on the nature of the arrangement, if they reach such an agreement at all, it will be necessary to discuss the program with the United States, says the industry and trade minister.

[Sharon] It will then be possible to discuss the issue with Husayn, in secret. And if later the technical problem of how to go about promoting this issue arises, this will be an entirely different matter, and a much simpler one. But under no circumstances should we hold a debate on the technical matters before we discuss the essence. [end recording]

Levi, Lapidot, Sela' Advised Not to Enter U.S.

TA161021 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Jul 87 p 2

[Report by Re'uven Pedatzur]

[Text] "Former Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi, Air Force Commander Major General 'Amos Lapidot, Colonel Avi'em Sela', and other members of the executive level who were involved in the Pollard affair and who are mentioned in the public portion of the Eban report will apparently not be able to enter U.S. territory for a long time," senior military and political sources assessed yesterday.

According to them, U.S. Administration sources have made it clear that they cannot guarantee that if any of them entered the United States, the U.S. judicial authorities would not subpoena them or perhaps even take harsher measures against them.

The senior sources claim that the U.S. clarifications should be attributed, among other things, to the fact that members of the executive level were harshly criticized in the public portion of the Eban report. The Rotenstreich-Tzur report leveled similar criticism, but only in its secret portion.

With the criticism made public, the U.S. judicial authorities cannot turn a blind eye if and when any of those involved in the affair arrive in the United States.

This was the backdrop for the meeting held yesterday between Lt Gen (reserves) Moshe Levi and Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. Levi wanted to know whether the conditions that would enable him to go to the United States to study had changed. Senior U.S. sources had hinted that the former chief of staff would be well advised to refrain from visiting the United States in the near future. In their meeting yesterday, the defense minister had nothing new to tell Levi, who expressed great bitterness over the situation.

Some time ago, when it was suggested that Maj Gen Lapidot may be appointed IDF attache in the United States, sources at the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv hastened to make it clear to senior defense establishment sources that the administration would not take a sympathetic view of this appointment, in view of Lapidot's role in the Pollard affair.

HA'ARETZ Sees 'Time Bomb' in Relations With U.S.

TA161140 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Jul 87 p 9

[Editorial: "Time Bomb"]

[Text] "I don't have to tell you — if you include Israel and the occupied territories — what time it is on the demographic clock in the land of Israel." This statement by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who is known for his coolness and "understated" remarks, (in a speech to a convention of Hadassah women in Baltimore) was a kind of a warning to Israel or, to be more precise, to its government and parties, the Likud in particular.

Shultz' remarks were actually directed at several addressees. To the entire government he said "no one improves the chances for peace by doing nothing at all, by just sitting around." In other words: The mutual neutralization in the Cabinet has reached the point where it is harming the peace process. To the Likud he said: "Those who oppose the exploration of new ideas, or even revising the old ideas, have an obligation to offer something different as an alternative to the status quo." In other words: To say "no" is not a policy. To the Alignment he said that political action is not enough and that "broad public support for the process should be attained before additional political steps can be taken." In other words: The political explorations to date can achieve nothing more, and Peres must now either recruit Shamir to the process or attain broad support through elections. And the message to Israel and the Jewish community in America was that in the administration's opinion, "there is a real desire for peace in the region; there is a recognition that change is going to come." His remarks imply that it is not the Arabs but rather Israel that is currently obstructing peace. It is not very pleasant to hear this.

This is definitely the first time in years that Israel has been "told off" by the U.S. Administration. Associating the demographic problem with a clock had the connotation of a time bomb. This is nothing new to many Israelis; we know that. What comes as news is the harsh statement made by the No. 2 man in the U.S. Administration. Our political establishment has for some reason been taking the United States, its friendship, and all that it implies (the aid) for granted. However, Shultz' remarks show this may not necessarily be the case forever.

The United States has been allocating great sums of money to provide Israel with the military strength which will ultimately bring the Arab world around to coming to terms with it. And, when there are signs of such a willingness on the part of the Arabs (in the view of the administration and half the Israeli Cabinet),

and an obstinate Israel continues to dig its heels in, it should come as no surprise if some day there is a change for the worse in the United States' attitude toward Israel. Israel is making long strides toward a point where it will find itself completely isolated in the world. Shultz' remarks should give us cause for concern: In a way, they have set off a time bomb in relations between the two countries.

Peres Terms India's Ban on Tourists 'Scandalous'

TA170613 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Jul 87 pp 1, 2

[Report by sports staff correspondents Yoram Kessel and Ori Lewis]

[Excerpts] India has suddenly barred Israeli tourists from visiting the country. A group of fourteen Israelis was forced to spend last night in the transit lounge of Delhi Airport after their visas were revoked while they were in mid-air.

"They are not allowed in," a Lufthansa official at the airport told *The Jerusalem Post* last night. "They will be flown on to Katmandu (Nepal) in the morning."

The Indian action follows reported representations by PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat in a bid to torpedo Israel's Davis Cup tennis match against India next weekend.

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres said last night that the ban on Israel travelers was "scandalous." Another group of some 40 Israeli visitors is due to land in Bombay this morning and it is feared that they will also be turned away.

Israel's national tennis team yesterday *did* receive their visas. The four players, five members of the coaching staff and three other officials (including MK [Knesset Member] Pinhas Goldstein) will be flying to Delhi this afternoon. The Indian High Commission in London issued the visas to the team yesterday. But a group of journalists, including *The Jerusalem Post* sports co-editor, and a small group of supporters who were to have joined the team for the July 24-26 match have had their visas revoked. [passage omitted]

Could the sudden imposition of a ban on Israeli travelers have simply been the result of a bureaucratic snafu? The sources in Delhi dismiss this as "most, most unlikely," holding that the sudden visa ban was "almost certainly a visible political act — possibly an attempt to mollify the PLO." [passage omitted]

Shamir Says Likud 'Objects' to Knesset Dissolution

TA161734 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in his office by Miryam Kirschenbaum on 16 July — videorecorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles]

[Text] [Kirschenbaum] If the Tehiya Central Committee endorses the recommendation of the movement's executive to move for the dissolution of the Knesset and call for early elections, and if a vote is taken on the motion in the Knesset, will the Likud support it?

[Shamir] Certainly not. The Likud objects to dissolving the Knesset and sees no reason to do so. The Knesset should complete its term as stipulated by law. After that, we will hold elections.

[Kirschenbaum] Sir, the Alignment and the Likud are engaged in a fundamental dispute. If this is the situation, perhaps it would be preferable to call the whole thing off and break up the partnership. So why is the Likud so vehemently and consistently opposed to holding early elections? Is it afraid of the results?

[Shamir] Nothing of the kind. We are not afraid of the results of the elections, but we feel that the majority of the public thinks and feels as we do. What is more, we believe agreements should be honored and fulfilled. We have an agreement with the Alignment, and it deals with the political problems as well. If the Alignment wants to alter something in it, it should receive our agreement to make that change. The Alignment may likewise suggest holding early elections, but it must first of all suggest this to us and receive our consent to it. It should not go to the Knesset, while still in the Cabinet, and take action against the existence of the Cabinet which was established through an agreement with the Alignment itself.

Left, Right Not Agreed

TA161742 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] A majority of the Knesset says it wants early elections, but it is not clear whether the house will be dissolved because the left- and right-wing opposition parties so far have not agreed to cooperate over the dissolution bill. The left-wing MAPAM party, for example, refuses to vote for Tehiya's bill because it gives as its grounds the failure of the national unity government to establish new settlements in the administered territories. MAPAM's bill charges that the government has failed to pursue the peace process. Jack Katzenell reports:

[Begin recording] [Katzenell] Last night, the right-wing opposition Tehiya party came out in support of early elections, and it seemed that at long last the Labor Party leader Shim'on Peres had the majority he has been seeking to dissolve the Knesset. But now this is no longer clear, because the left-wing opposition Citizens Rights Movement says it is not sure it will support Tehiya's bill; and another left-wing party, MAPAM, says it definitely will not. MAPAM Secretary General El'azar Granot rejected allegations that MAPAM is really afraid of elections due to its poor showing at the polls, or that it is keeping the Likud in power by criticizing its policies.

[Granot] Yitzhaq Shamir is in power because there is a treaty between the Likud and the Labor Party and the religious parties to have this government. It is not because of us.

[Katzenell] Granot will not even confirm whether MAPAM's bill to dissolve the Knesset will be submitted next week and the Tehiya, for its part, has not yet decided whether to support a

dissolution bill from MAPAM or the CRM. The picture may become clearer on Sunday after the meeting of the Tehiya's Central Committee. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres says the Labor Party will not take an initiative of its own in the Knesset to bring elections forward at this stage. But Peres told reporter Sabra Chartrand the party would support the Tehiya initiative.

Tehiya States Demand

TA161842 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir will meet with the Tehiya faction tomorrow in view of its threat to support early elections. Tehiya Movement Chairman Knesset Member Yuval Ne'eman said that the Tehiya is demanding $100 million for settlements in Judaea and Samaria, as well as the establishment of 25 additional settlements in return for forgoing its support for holding early elections. [passage omitted]

Shamir Meets Tehiya Leaders

TA170910 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] In a meeting with Tehiya leaders, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that two new settlements could be established and roads could be paved in Judaea and Samaria within the framework of the coalition [agreement]. Mr Shamir pleaded with the Tehiya members this morning and told them the polls show that the public does not want elections. Mr Shamir emphasized that only the current government can guarantee that an international conference will not be convened. This has been reported by our correspondent Hayim Zissovitz. Prof Yuval Ne'eman said that he must hold meetings with the finance and construction ministers to consolidate his position on bringing elections forward.

'No Change' in Tehiya Stand

TA170718 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0657 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] The meeting with the Tehiya leaders at the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem has just ended. Our correspondent Yinon Shenkar will now give us an initial report:

The Tehiya leaders left the meeting with Yitzhaq Shamir a few minutes ago. The meeting was longer than scheduled. The Tehiya members will meet either today or on Sunday with the finance minister, the construction and housing minister, and perhaps even with other ministers to discuss the specifics of the fundamental issues which were apparently concluded with the prime minister.

Yuval Ne'eman, the chairman of the Tehiya Movement, said upon emerging from the meeting that the prime minister had raised new aspects and additional proposals which must now be studied. However, at this moment there has been no change in the recommendation to the Tehiya's Central Committee, which will meet on Sunday, regarding the proposal to bring elections forward.

Commander Lapidot Discusses Air Force Situation

TA161411 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0405 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Air Force Commander Major General 'Amos Lapidot says that 1 and 1/2 years after the downing of two Syrian Mig's, it turns out that the event has had no serious results. He is similarly nonplussed by the advance of Syrian antiaircraft missiles toward the Lebanese border. The Air Force continues to carry out missions in Lebanese airspace and its flights there are conducted without interruption. Lapidot added that for the moment there is no new information on the navigator who parachuted out over Lebanese territory, although it is known that he is being held by Amal and is safe and sound. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal spoke withthe Air Force commander:

[Begin recording] [Tal] Air Force Commander Maj Gen 'Amos Lapidot is due to retire in a few months. He boasts such achievements as Air Force advancement in bringing on line large systems and the assimilation of new combat theories, while suffering painful cuts and slashes. In some areas, Gen Lapidot says, we have already risen from the nadir. However, in terms of the yearly projection, we are still experiencing some difficulties.

[Lapidot] We presented the best possible plan given the resources at our disposal. I believe that we have been unable to provide a good enough answer to advanced and modern means of warfare, or what is known today as the future battlefront.

[Tal] Perhaps this was because these funds were slated for other projects?

[Lapidot] Some of the funds may have gone toward the Lavi, some were earmarked to other IDF branches, and some of the financial allocations were cut from the defense budget to cover other national needs.

[Tal] Gen Lapidot, if the decision is to go ahead with the Lavi project, do you believe the Air Force will have sufficient resources to equip itself with all the items and means it had planned to obtain, which it will need in the future?

[Lapidot] This depends to a great extent on the nature of the resolutions that will be adopted, because if the decision is to proceed with the project without allocating additional funds toward it, this will come at the expense of everyone, including the Air Force. It will then be quite impossible to implement many of the development plans we ought to execute. However, I hope that if the decision is to go ahead with the Lavi project, a parallel decision will also be made to provide this project with the necessary budget and also supplement the IDF and the Air Force with all they need.

The Lavi is a huge project, a national endeavor with extremely weighty public significance, not only in the security sphere but in broad economic, civilian, industrial, and other areas as well.

The Cabinet must think carefully and analyze its goals, and then make up its mind. This is not the private problem of the defense establishment, or the IDF, or the Air Force.

[Tal] Gen Lapidot, perhaps you can add something regarding the air threat we are facing?

[Lapidot] We are in the midst of an ongoing gradual development which is very tangible, such as the resumption of the supply of Mirage-2000's to Egypt. We know they have a contract for the supply of 20 such aircraft, of which 12 have already been sent, after which there was a halt. Yet now the supply has been resumed. We also presume Syria will receive Mig-29's in the not too distant future. To the best of our knowledge, however, they have not yet arrived there.

Changes on this level have always existed in all Arab countries. It might be worthwhile mentioning in this context that the Iran-Iraq war is still going on and that a rather fierce air war is being waged on that front. From this point of view, the Iraqi Air Force is continuing to gain experience, and this is something we definitely have to pay attention to and watch carefully.

[Tal] Gen Lapidot, what personal lessons have you — and perhaps on a wider scope also the Air Force as a whole — learned from the Avi'em Sela' affair. What is to become of him?

[Lapidot] I think that this depends on the nature, timing, and date of the final conclusion of this affair vis-a-vis the Americans. At the moment, Avi'em Sela' is an instructor at the National Defense College, where he will remain for another certain period of time, although I do not know for exactly how long. As for the future, the situation is evidently quite foggy. Everyone knows that he is an extremely talented officer who could have had — and still can have — senior positions in the Air Force. I hope the situation in the future will make it possible to reinstate him in the frontline and to put him in a position of central activity in the Air Force from which he could advance.

[Tal] Would it be possible to say the feeling of Avi'em Sela' and his associates that he could have been accorded a different attitude is justified?

[Lapidot] At the time I gave Sela' all the backing I thought he was due. This entire affair became quite a mess and right now I have no desire to analyze the political maneuvering involved. But in reply to your question, I, and I believe also the entire Air Force senior officer staff, tried to give him the best support possible. [end recording]

Interviewed on Syrian 'Threat'

TA161502 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0500 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Interview with Air Force Commander Major General 'Amos Lapidot by Alon Ben-David on the occasion of Air Force Day on 16 July; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Ben-David] Maj Gen Lapidot, this year the Air Force again experienced quantitative cuts. What effect did this have on the force, and has it in any way affected its capability or its power?

[Lapidot] In fact, over the last few years the Air Force had already cut back on things as a result of past budget cuts, so in this respect this year was somewhat different. It marked a certain degree of stability in which we somehow managed to learn to live with past budget cuts. Although our current Air Force is slightly smaller, all in all this year we have more or less reconciled ourselves to a smaller force.

[Ben-David] Let us now delve a bit into the intelligence sphere. Could you tell us what is presently Israel's greatest threat from the air?

[Lapidot] By nature we continue to regard Syria as the major threat to Israel at the moment. This includes the threat from the Syrian Air Force and the Syrian Army's air defense systems. However, other countries also present a potential threat, particularly as a result of the development and growth of their air forces. With respect to this, I would really like to point out that the Saudi Air Force is continuing to grow stronger and is purchasing advanced weapon systems such as the F-15's or AWACS, and this can certainly be a threat.

[Ben-David] Regarding the Syrian threat. Would you say that over the past 12 months there has been a trend of pursuing or retreating from Syria's aspiration to achieve strategic parity with us as far as air warfare is concerned?

[Lapidot] No. No retreat can be observed. Definitely not. Moreover, I would say the development momentum that could be labeled the attainment of strategic balance still continues and they have actually not yet reached the stage in which they have exhausted this issue completely. They are therefore continuing to pursue this line, and we assume we will see them equipped with MIG-29's soon.

[Ben-David] How will this affect the balance between the two air forces?

[Lapidot] It will improve the Syrian Air Force's capability and provide it with another important qualitative dimension it currently lacks. All in all, the Syrian Air Force will be stronger and of better quality, and we will have to find ways to counter this.

[Ben-David] The F-4 navigator is still in captivity. Has any progress been made, any development been seen, or any new information been obtained on his predicament? Is there a chance that he will come back soon?

[Lapidot] I hope that he will come back soon and can only say that we are concerned about his fate and hope he will return quickly. Naturally, we are making every effort to bring him back home.

[Ben-David] If we try to project ahead a few years, has any intelligence indicated that the balance of power in the air in the next few years would change?

[Lapidot] Naturally changes take place, and I would say the trend that has been emerging is that the Syrian Air force in particular has been undergoing a substantial quantitative growth process over the past few years, especially since the Peace for Galilee campaign. To a certain extent, the balance between us has indeed experienced a certain shift, which we should definitely be aware of and make sure we provide the necessary solutions.

Former Gaza Mayor To Publish Pro-Jordanian Paper

TA160905 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0500 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] A new daily, the first in the Gaza Strip, will soon be published. Yesterday Brigadier General Shay Erez, the head of the Civilian Administration in the Gaza Strip, issued former Gaza Mayor Rashad al-Shawwa a permit to publish the daily. The details are reported by our correspondent in the territories Ilan Ben-Dor:

Nearly 4 years ago Rashad al-Shawwa, a most influential figure in the territories, who is close to the Jordanian authorities, appealed to the Civilian Administration in Gaza with a request to publish a paper. Yesterday his request was granted by Brig Gen Shay Erez. He intends to print the new daily *Al-Huda*, which means guidance and which will deal with political and socioeconomic issues, in both Arabic and English within 2 months. It seems the new Gaza paper will have a clear pro-Jordanian line, thus joining two other papers in the territories which have a similar nature, as opposed to seven others which are inclined to support the PLO.

Rashad al-Shawwa himself claims his daily will be pan-Arab in nature and that no political reasons were involved in giving him the permit at this time. On the other hand, it should be noted that a security source has assessed that an Al-Shawwa daily may increase Jordan's influence over public opinion in the Arab streets in the territories.

Interview With Al-Shawwa

JN160946 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World
1430 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Text] A short while ago, Al-Haj Rashad al-Shawwa, former Gaza mayor, was granted a permit by the Gaza Strip Civil Administration to issue a political daily newspaper. Our colleague Ibrahim Shahid spoke by telephone with Al-Haj al-Shawwa.

[Begin Recording] [Shahid] Good evening, Al-Haj Rashad al-Shawwa.

[Al-Shawwa] Good evening.

[Shahid] Can we first congratulate you on your obtaining a license to issue a newspaper in the Gaza Strip?

[Al-Shawwa] Now, you can congratulate me because I have been waiting a long time for this license. At long last, I was granted the license today.

[Shahid] Can you tell us about this newspaper. Will it be a daily or a weekly publication? And what line will it adopt?

[Al-Shawwa] The intention is to have a daily newspaper that follows an independent pan-Arab line that defends the Arab viewpoint and tries to create an atmosphere of understanding between the Israelis and the Arabs in the occupied territories.

[Shahid] Have you completed preparations for issuing the newspaper? When are you hoping the newspaper will be launched?

[Al-Shawwa] I have not managed to prepare an editorial team because I was not sure about the date on which I would obtain the license. Now that I have the license, I will work seriously to find an editorial team. I also believe that during the coming 3-4 weeks, God willing, we will be able to find that team. Many brothers are bound to contact me on this issue and I will also contact many people to find suitable persons who are following the independent line I have just told you about.

[Shahid] Al-Haj Rashad. what will the name of the newspaper be and when will it be launched, God willing?

[Al-Shawwa] The name of the newspaper will be *Al-Huda* [guidance] as we are all in dire need of God's guidance and I hope this newspaper will help enlighten citizens inside and outside the occupied territories. I expect that in 6-8 weeks from now, we will be able to launch the first issue of the newspaper.

[Shahid] Thank you, Al-Haj Rashah al-Shawwa. God willing, we will see *Al-Huda* in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank shortly.

[Al-Shawwa] Thank You. [end recording]

AL-NAHAR Editorial Praises New PLO 'Liberal Line'

NC161159 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic
16 Jul 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "The Wise Approach and the Required Coordination"]

[Excerpts] AFP has quoted 'Imad Shakkur, Yasir 'Arafat's adviser on Israeli affairs, as saying that the success of the international conference for peace in the Middle East depends upon bringing Palestinians and Israelis together at preparatory negotiations.

When added to another statement which the PLO Executive Committee chairman made last week, in which he called for the establishment of a "mini-Palestinian" state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, it is confirmed that the PLO has begun to follow a liberal line that takes the policy of fait accomplis in the occupied land into consideration.

The change by the PLO toward a rational Palestinian strategy is certainly a wise approach and is consistent with Jordanian and

Egyptian policy. This policy is based upon the conviction that every day that passes adds to the complexity of the crisis and serves Israel's interests, and that time is not in favor of the Palestinian issue.

We, in the occupied land, who have been suffering daily as a result of Israel's practices, such as the confiscation of land, demolition of houses, arrests, and the usurpation of water supplies, are more knowledgeable about our situation. We commend this new approach, which primarily means that the PLO understands what is happening in the occupied land and is working to tackle this situation through a liberal approach.

This new PLO strategy will result in a significant achievement in the organization's political relations in the near future, particularly on the level of attaining a just political solution to the Palestinian issue. This will be far removed from the familiar no's and emotional approach. [passage omitted]

Finally, it is necessary to note that that organization's position will be stronger on the basis of its new strategy if it is coordinated within the framework of a single, harmonious Arab strategy. What the organization is proposing today is what Jordan and Egypt have been asking it to do for a long time.

Giv'ati Brigade Ends Excercise in North 16 Jul

TA161042 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] The Giv'ati Brigade soldiers ended an intensive exercise in the north this morning. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the members of this brigade practised fighting in mountainous terrain with the aid of the artillery, engineering, armored, and air forces. They were also drilled in defense against chemical warfare. The Giv'ati commanders said that one of the goals of the exercise was to check the soldiers' endurance under the worst possible conditions. The chief of staff, who watched the exercise, noted that the terrain was similar to that in which the IDF drills for a possible war against Syria. Senior commanders said the Giv'ati soldiers had demonstrated excellent physical fitness and good professional ability.

Al-Najah University Official Sentenced, Fined

TA161826 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1730 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] The military court in Nabulus has meted out an 8-month suspended sentence, valid for 5 years, as well as a 10,000-shekel fine on the spokesman of Al-Najah University in Nabulus who was found guilty of incitement. Sa'ib Muhammad 'Ariqat was convicted of publishing inflammatory announcements and articles on administrative detentions and torture in Israeli prisons. This report was filed by our correspondent Ilan Ben-Dor.

Nabulus College Closed Following 'Disturbances'

TA170615 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0600 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] Al-Rawda College [in Nabulus] was closed overnight and will remain shut until 23 July at midnight. The college was closed following disturbances and for fear of possible future riots.

Prime Minister Departs for London 16 Jul

JN161304 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Zayd al-Rifa'i, prime minister and defense minister, departed Amman for London this afternoon. He will attend the 2-day grand military celebration to be held in the United Kingdom under the patronage of His Majesty King Husayn next Saturday. He was seen off at Queen Alia International Airport by the deputy prime minister and a number of ministers.

Paper Criticizes Peres' Reference to Nation

JN161150 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 16 Jul 87 pp 1, 22

[Editorial: "Our Credibility and Their Maneuvers"]

[Text] In addressing the Knesset yesterday, Shim'on Peres discussed what he called Israel's desire to make peace with interested neighboring Arab states. He went on to ask what is wrong with making peace with Jordan? This reference to Jordan is not the first of its kind, for Peres has more than once suggested that Jordan is the second Arab candidate for a separate peace with Israel. Such a reference obviously carries a deliberate attempt to call into question Jordan's position. It additionally betrays negative intentions concerning the construction of a just and comprehensive regional peace.

Jordan, which is interested in true peace, has already made it clear that it does not pursue a separate peace and that it will not be a substitute or proxy for the Palestinians in the peace process. Jordan has also made it clear that it is committed to a just, comprehensive peace which must be constructed by all parties concerned, including the PLO, through a UN-sponsored international conference to be attended by the Security Council's permanent members. Jordan's position on this matter has been and will continue to be constant and unchanging, since it reflects a pan-Arab commitment that Jordan cannot possibly abandon.

Israeli attempts to undermine Arab trust in this nation will achieve nothing; Jordan's credibility is strong enough to be out of the reach of conspiracies used by Peres and other Israeli politicians. They had better opt for the road of peace and realize that their maneuvering tactics have grown jaded, that there is no way Israel can approach the Arab states individually.

All the Arabs have expressed a genuine wish for peace and proven this through the Arab peace plan they are committed to. They have identified the proposed international conference as the irreplaceable route to peace. Had Peres been sincere in his discussion of peace, he would have accepted the Arab plan as a launching pad for the peace process. However, just as other Israeli politicians do, Peres talks about peace when he in fact tries to bring the Arabs to their knees. This goal will not be achieved under any circumstances.

Prime Minister Comments on 'Strong' Economy

JN161539 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 16 Jul 87 pp 1, 22

[Text] Amman, (PETRA) — Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i has affirmed that Jordan's economy is strong, thanks to proper planning and execution, the cooperation of the public and private sectors, and the investment of Arab and foreign capital in Jordan due to its position and political stability.

The prime minister stated that the Jordanian dinar has maintained its value with major world currencies since 1975, when Jordan began calculating the dinar's value on bases linked to Special Drawing Rights.

In a statement published in the magazine *Al-Mughtarib al-'Arabi* [*The Arab Expatriate*], the prime minister urged Jordanian expatriates to convert foreign assets into Jordanian dinars in view of the dinar's relative stability and to avoid any losses, especially since these assets involve large sums of money.

The prime minister said certain Jordanian industries have attained high standards both in using modern technology and in product quality. These industries, he added, are now sold in neighboring Arab markets as well as the markets of industrial states such as Canada and Europe.

The prime minister added that due to these industries' importance, the Jordanian Government has taken several measures to make them competitive in foreign markets. These measures, he said, include tax exemptions, duty-free facilities for needed raw materials, and discount prices for power and fuel used by these industries.

The prime minister declared Jordan hopes its expatriate sons will play a more active role in reconstructing their homeland by investing their money at home instead of depositing it in foreign banks abroad. They should especially do this since many of these foreign deposits were either embezzled or lost value due to exchange rate fluctuations, which caused tremendous losses for their owners.

The prime minister added: In view of this subject's importance, the government has established a special bureau in the Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Supply. This organization is known as the Bureau for the Encouragement of Investment; it serves expatriate investors by acquainting them with investment opportunities in the Kingdom and providing them with various facilities in different government departments.

Al-Rifa'i stated the government plans to appoint several commercial attaches to Jordanian embassies to promote Jordanian goods and explain investment opportunities available in the Kingdom.He added that plans are also to open more Jordanian trade centers in Arab and foreign nations to increase Jordanian exports.

Al-Rifa'i affirmed that the government, for its part, has implemented all recommendations made by the first and second expatriates conferences. He stated that an expatriates department has been established in the Foreign Ministry and that all formalities and procedures concerning passports and the free movement of

expatriates and their assets, both movable and immovable, have been facilitated. He also said that the Council of Ministers has approved the nationality law amendment authorizing dual nationality. The Council of Ministers additionally approved establishing a private university in Al-Zarqa' to absorb additional numbers of expatriates' children in Jordanian universities. The prime minister reported that the Council of Ministers has also decided to increase the number of expatriates' children accepted at established universities and intermediate institutes.

In discussing unemployment, the prime minister declared that this issue does not pose a long-term problem and that the government has adopted several temporary measures to treat its causes.

Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i also commented that the government has done its best at all levels to seek new job markets for Jordanians and that it has undertaken multifaceted contacts with fraternal countries to increase the presence of Jordanians in these countries.

The prime minister stated that the government has undertaken many efforts with GCC nations to maintain and increase the Jordanian labor force in these countries. The government has also amended civil service laws to facilitate the lending of civil servants to these countries and adopted several measures to encourage the private sector to create further job opportunities for Jordanians.

Glass, Waite Reportedly Held in Iranian Embassy

NC171456 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1430 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] The *Al-Shira'* magazine expects Rudolf Cordes and Alfred Schmidt, the two German hostages in Lebanon, to be released soon. It says that the next few days will witness a happy and successful outcome to the West German Government's efforts.

In the meantime, *Le Nouvel Observateur* reports that the Syrian forces have located a building in the southern suburb [of Beirut] in which some of the hostages have been held. The building has been turned into a mosque. The embassy [as heard] adds that Terry Waite and Charles Glass are being held in the Iranian Embassy in Beirut and affirms that Syrian forces are surrounding the suburb and the Islamic Amal Movement's headquarters in Ba'labakk.

Hizballah Warns France Against 'Hostile' Policy

NC162001 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 1945 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] In a statement issued in Beirut, Hizballah has declared that French interests in the Islamic world will be affected by the deterioration in relations between Paris and Tehran. The statement said: We denounce France's bad policy and warn that country of the consequences of its hostile stand toward Muslims.

Islamic Jihad Reportedly To Execute French Hostages

NC171434 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1415 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] A spokesman for Islamic Jihad this afternoon declared that the organization plans to immediately execute French diplomats Marcel Carton and Marcel Fontaine.

However, in a telephone conversation with Voice of Lebanon, French Embassy sources expressed doubt about the authenticity of the announcement in view of the fact that the organization did not attach to its threat a picture of either hostage, its usual method of indicating that such statements have actually been issued by Islamic Jihad.

Relations Break Cited

JN171521 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1500 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] A report from Beirut about an hour ago stated that an unidentified person claiming to speak on behalf of the Islamic Jihad had announced that two French hostages will be executed at once as a result of France's decision to sever its diplomatic relations with Iran. The unidentified person telephoned a Western news agency to make this announcement.

Reuter reports from Beirut that the spokesman phoned two Western news agencies but did not offer any proof that he belongs to Islamic Jihad. More than 1 hour has elapsed since the threat was made.

Execution Statement Issued

NC171454 Beirut Voice of National Resistance
in Arabic 1430 GMT 17 JUL 87

[Text] The first reaction to the severance of diplomatic relations between Paris and Tehran came in the form of an announcement by the Islamic Jihad Organization that it will immediately execute French diplomats Marcel Carton and Marcel Fontaine. The Islamic Jihad Organization's statement reads as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. God punishes quickly. He is also forgiving and merciful. Verily, God has spoken the truth. Following the escalating and provocative step taken by Jacques Chirac, the agent of America and candidate for the French presidency, toward the Islamic Republic [of Iran], in the hope of winning over French public opinion for the upcoming elections, we inform him:

1. The decision to sever relations with Iran will make oppressed Muslims more determined to continue the struggle against American imperialism and its European offspring, especially the French; and

2. We have decided to carry out immediately a death sentence passed on Marcel Carton and his colleague, Marcel Fontaine.

Islamic Jihad Threatens More Explosions in Kuwait

NC170526 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 0445 GMT 17Jul 87

[Excerpt] The *Al-Nahar* newspaper writes today that it has received a telephone call from an unidentified person who claimed to speak on behalf of the Mustafa Shamran Troops of the Islamic Jihad Organization. The speaker threatened further explosions in Kuwait until 22 July, the day the U.S. flag is hoisted on Kuwaiti tankers. [passage omitted]

Hizballah Leader Interviewed on Hostages, Syrians

PM171405 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic
15-21 Jul 87 pp 22-23

[Interview with Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli, a prominent Hizballah leader, by Ruba Kabbarah in Beirut; date not given -- first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli is one of the most prominent Hizballah leaders in Lebanon and he lives in Al-Biqa'. After the kidnapping of U.S. reporter Charles Glass on 17 June in West Beirut, which is under the protection of Syrian forces, there were rumors about differences between Hizballah and Syria. Some observers interpreted the intensification of the Syrian military presence in Al-Biqa', a Hizballah stronghold, and the Syrian forces' firmness with Hizballah members at checkpoints as a reflection of these differences. Some even went so far as to say that the Syrian forces are about to storm the southern suburb of

Beirut. So, *Al-Majallah* has met with Shaykh al-Tufayli and put to him all the questions that have recently been raised. Hence, the following interview:

[Kabbarah] Is there a possibility of an imminent confrontation between Hizballah and the Syrians?

[Al-Tufayli] I do not believe that there is anything of the kind. There is no such possibility. The common strategic interests which are the link between the goals of the Lebanese Muslims, headed by Hizballah, and those of the Syrians in the region do not allow such thinking by the Syrians or by us.

[Kabbarah] But it has been noticed that in the area of Ba'labakk, which is a Hizballah stronghold, there are strict security measures and an intensification of the Syrian military presence.

[Al-Tufayli] That does not mean confrontation. There may be some misunderstanding of certain things, or it may be something else, but that does not mean the situation could reach the point of confrontation, at least not as far as we are concerned.

[Kabbarah] There have been reports of confiscation of orders and arms.

[Al-Tufayli] That is not a problem. I have not heard — and none of the brothers has said anything to me — about that. I sometimes hear about confiscation of licenses for transportation of arms, or something like that, but so far no specific case has been recorded. On the contrary, traffic is normal through Syrian checkpoints in Al-Biqa'.

[Kabbarah] How would you describe relations between the currents to which you belong and the Syrians in Lebanon?

[Al-Tufayli] Actually there is nothing new as far as we are concerned. All there is to it is that we have heard about some Syrian displeasure reflected, in practice, in the harassment of people at checkpoints. It has been said that the reason for that displeasure is the disappearance of American journalist Charles Glass. As usual, the media and the tendentious people hold Hizballah responsible for that. I believe many people are influenced by the media, and that reflects negatively on our relations with the Syrians.

[Kabbarah] What about the ban on the "Iranian Guards'" entry into Syria and Lebanon?

[Al-Tufayli] I have no information on that. As far as I know there has been no harassment.

[Kabbarah] The recent kidnapping of reporter Glass in Beirut is seen as an act of defiance. Negotiations are usually held with Iran on such matters. Hizballah is considered to be pro-Iran, and that is why it has been said it was the side which carried out the kidnapping.

[Al-Tufayli] That kind of talk means something else to us. The goal is to mislead others and to fight Hizballah. I reject these accusations and consider the linking of the kidnapping of foreigners with Hizballah to be an expression of hostility and an encroachment, be it in the southern suburb of Beirut or anywhere else. A person could be present anywhere and could do anything. We all know that the intelligence services of most world states are present in Beirut and in the southern suburb and that any group can do whatever it likes. In this campaign I detect aggressive intentions or international plots against us. All methods of propaganda are being used to pave the way and create the right atmosphere for action against the Muslims. They particularly use Islamic symbols to cover up this aggressiveness.

[Kabbarah] Islamic symbols, such as?

[Al-Tufayli] I consider any Muslim who levels charges against the Islamic state of affairs to be in league with our enemies, and he should know that we classify him as such. An entire people should not be held responsible for the actions of a small group attached to a certain security element or a certain state. I wish others would behave responsibly, otherwise there would be ruin and damnation and, I believe, the Muslims would suffer the least.

[Kabbarah] The latest kidnapping operation was a blow to the Syrians, who want the hostage issue to be resolved. Minister 'Adil 'Usayran has accused Hizballah, and [Syrian intelligence chief in Lebanon] Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an has had a meeting with Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah. All the accusing fingers are pointed at Hizballah.

[Al-Tufayli] That is what I am talking about. There are attempts to portray the situation as such. There is premeditation and hostility there and many people are wittingly or unwittingly contributing to that. With my people in the south and the fighters in mind, I am really ashamed to be sitting here talking about the disppearance of one American at a time when scores of Lebanese disappear every day without any security official or politician losing any sleep over it. I find myself out of place when I take interest in talk about any kidnapped American when an entire people is being kidnapped here. I say Hizballah had nothing to do with the kidnapping of the American, and others know Hizballah is innocent. Regardless of whether or not the kidnappers belong to a right-wing, left-wing, or Islamic ideology, it is wrong to expect the Muslims to pay the price. Those who are eager to please the United States and Europe are in fact trying to strike at the Islamic state of affairs, which is an absolutely wretched thing to do because the Islamic state of affairs is not an easy prey nor is it helpless. It cannot be harmed by this media onslaught.

[Kabbarah] How do you view the situation now, after the recent kidnapping in Beirut, the strict measures in Al-Biqa', and the beginning of U.S.-Syrian dialogue?

[Al-Tufayli] Actually I do not wish to go on record as saying that the Syrian Army in Lebanon contemplates anything less than fighting Israel or that it denies the role of the fighters against Israel. The role of the Syrian Army in Lebanon is greater than some people are willing to admit.

[Kabbarah] After the Fathallah barracks massacre, a Hizballah delegation, including yourself, met with President al-Asad and you agreed on a number of steps. What was the result?

[Al-Tufayli] The Syrians have honored the steps agreed upon and have facilitated certain things such as supplies for the resistance. We are interested in good relations with the Syrian regime. If we want to fight Israel we must have good relations with Syria. We want the Syrians to understand that the media, the United States, and Israel are all unhappy about the Islamic state of affairs in Lebanon and that their aim is to turn the Syrians against us. If the Syrians are influenced by this instigation to any degree, this cannot last or continue.

[Kabbarah] What about the question of Syrian entry into the [southern] suburb, which appears to be under siege at present?

[Al-Tufayli] The suburb would be under siege if we considered the Syrian Army to be an enemy, which we don't.

[Kabbarah] What if the Syrians sought to enter it?

[Al-Tufayli] That is a different matter. We have said in the past that security is one thing and political steps are quite another. There is nothing in the suburb that disturbs public security — just the United States, Israel, and the arrogant.

[Kabbarah] What about the recent clashes?

[Al-Tufayli] This is a game to which we can put an end. There are sides which seek to destroy unity. They tried to play the Hizballah-versus-Amal card, but the party does not take part in local conflicts. Contemplation of entry into the suburb would undermine the resistance and public security and accentuate the Phalangist threat. Entering the suburb is not such an easy thing and one should think carefully before taking such a step. I do not believe that the Syrians think that way or that they would contemplate entering the suburb with utter disregard for our convictions and reactions and the interests of the resistance.

[Kabbarah] Is there a Syrian-Hizballah accord? What are the points of disagreement?

[Al-Tufayli] The points that could be construed as differences are points which we usually do not take any interest in, such as local Lebanese political affairs like forming fronts, ministries, agreements, or any such things. Our views on such matters may differ from the Syrian views totally or in some details but we do not dwell on them. We simply express our views and move on without addressing ourselves too much to these matters. That is because we believe the top priority for us and everyone else is fighting Israel. We should apply this and hope that others will acknowledge that we are right. We also happen to believe that the Lebanese problem is too difficult to be solved with such agreements or meetings, and so one should not be too anxious to be part of every one of these agreements or meetings. So, this is the main field where differences with Syria could occur. Therefore we are always out of the circle of disagreement and in the circle of accord. Fighting Israel is a circle of agreement with them. As regards the things which happen in Lebanon and involve Europeans or Americans and where the Syrians might suspect or think Hizballah is responsible, I hope the day will come when they will not make such a mistake.

[Kabbarah] Everyone knows that Iran holds the key to the hostage issue. What is your opinion?

[Al-Tufayli] Assuming that Iran holds the key, what have I got to do with it? Assuming that Iran, or the United States, or South Africa, or the Soviet Union has a security group in Lebanon to do what it wants, I, that is the Lebanese people, do not approve of a security group of 10 or 12 people doing something connected with, for example, the United States, Iran, or Russia. Should the Islamic state of affairs be held responsible? This is wrong. I do not accept such talk from anyone near or far, friend or foe.

[Kabbarah] Do you forbid the kidnapping of foreigners?

[Al-Tufayli] I have, out of conviction, repeatedly said that kidnapping of innocent people, be they foreigners or Lebanese, Muslims or non-Muslims, is wrong. This is my conviction. This, however, does not mean all Muslims hold the same conviction. Others may have other convictions.

[Kabbarah] What about the possibility of Israel overrunning the south?

[Al-Tufayli] What Israel could do is mount blitzkrieg operations or launch intimidation campaigns, but this does not frighten us. In fact it would promote more friction with Israel and so increase and expand the chances of fighting it.

[Kabbarah] What about Hizballah's relations with Walid Junblatt?

[Al-Tufayli] We have had a meeting. Our relations with the PSP became confused after the disappearance of Terry Waite, but that confusion is now over. For the record, we say that, having observed developments, we consider Walid Junblatt to be sincere in confronting the Phalangist forces in Lebanon, which constitute a Zionist phenomenon. He is one of those people who tackles issues at the roots. There have been instances of some ties with Israel in the Druze circles, but Walid Junblatt has established no such ties, not even in difficult circumstances. We value relations with sincere patriotic forces.

[Kabbarah] Everyone in Lebanon is saying the year of real reckoning will be 1988 when the president of the Republic is elected. Does this mean anything to you?

[Al-Tufayli] It means to us that between now and that date the Lebanese people will pay the price of the struggle over the question of who should be the next president. This matter is important to us.

[Kabbarah] Do you expect a political conflict or a military one — or both?

[Al-Tufayli] Both. A political conflict in some positions and a military conflict in other positions.

[Kabbarah] What, in your view, will be the characteristics and leanings of the new president?

[Al-Tufayli] I believe the biggest share will go to the Americans. There may be a new miniature Sarkis [reference to former President Sarkis] who obeys everyone.

[Kabbarah] Is it still Hizballah's aim to set up an Islamic republic in Lebanon?

[Al-Tufayli] In the world.

[Kabbarah] And will there be room for non-Muslims?

[Al-Tufayli] One should not be taken in by the exaggerations of certain quarters. The tendentious media, when talking about Islam, try to link it to the ill-treatment of non-Muslims. In the Ottoman days anyone who wanted to escape a trial used to go to the house of the bishop who was highly respected.

[Kabbarah] Regarding the foreign hostages, will you help in resolving that issue?

[Al-Tufayli] There will be no assistance. We tried to help in the past and were ourselves accused of the kidnapping.

[Kabbarah] What about Hizballah's relations with Iran?

[Al-Tufayli] With regard to our relations with Iran or anyone else, we say that we worship God and abide by the Holy Koran. We neither follow Iran nor anyone else. They are our brothers and we support them.

DIE WELT Interview With President Al-Jumayyil

DW161051 Bonn DIE WELT in German 16 Jul 87 p 4

[Interview with President Amin al-Jumayyil by Peter Schmalz in Beirut; date not given]

[Text][Schmalz] Mr President, Druze leader Junblatt wishes you a bullet; your prime minister, Rashid Karami recently died in a bomb attack on his helicopter; and several days ago three missiles were fired at your office. Do your feel threatened? Do you fear for your life?

[Al-Jumayyil] Of course. After all, I am a human being and cannot remain unaffected by what is going on in the realm of security. The threats by various sides are very serious and grave. Do not forget that I have also been confronted by two major difficulties: the local revolutions staged by Christians on 12 March 1985 and by Muslims on 6 February 1984. Or, to put it correctly, neither Christians nor Muslims, but extremists on both sides. I just have to constantly live with that kind of threat.

[Schmalz] Your brother Bashir was assassinated on the 22d day of his presidency. You have been in this dangerous position for almost 5 years. What gives you the strength to continue your work?

[Al-Jumayyil] I am working for a united, democratic, and pluralist Republic of Lebanon, and I am convinced that our citizens want nothing more than to live in such a Lebanese state. Therefore, in the interests of the overwhelming Lebanese majority, I face the threats from all camps. Sure, I am not in a very comfortable position, but that is my duty, my destiny, my mission, and my role.

I will not resign; I will not give up. I come from a family that is committed to a free and democratic state of Lebanon, as well as to humanity. For me, that is the human value of my work. I follow my ideals, and I am aware that my task is important for me and for thecountry.

[Schmalz] Is it also possible to relax in such a country? Can you afford a hobby?

[Al-Jumayyil] Of course you can. I play tennis and go waterskiing. I am also a helicopter pilot. I have had a license since 1964, and I use the helicopter very often. I enjoy it.

[Schmalz] Let us return to Lebanon's policy. Your prime minister was assassinated, you quickly appointed a successor, and it seemed the Lebanese Government handled that new crisis very quickly. Meanwhile, there have been reports that the Syrian deputy prime minister, during his visit to Tripoli — which is occupied by Syria — made very critical statements about that solution. In addition, the president of the parliament tendered his resignation, which he then retracted. How do you assess the current domestic political situation?

[Al-Jumayyil] I condemn the assassination of Prime Minister Karami most sharply. He was a good Lebanese and served his country at a very critical time. We must accelerate the investigation of that crime and punish those who committed it.

However, the Lebanese leaders' unanimity following the assassination and the quick appointment of former Labor and Education Minister Salim al-Huss as acting prime minister prove best that we Lebanese can master such a serious crisis — provided, however, that there is no outside intereference in our affairs.

Parliamentary President Husayni's resignation and Karami's resignation shortly before his assassination should be viewed in the context of such outside intervention.

[Schmalz] Do you not have any opportunities to repel such influence?

[Al-Jumayyil] We are working out concepts leading to the unity of Lebanon and the restoration of its independence. In that way the influence of those foreign forces, which were and are behind the resignations, logically would be repelled.

[Schmalz] Mr President, while we are talking here in your office, two German hostages are being held not far from here in the Shi'ite part of Beirut. Do you see an opportunity to help them?

[Al-Jumayyil] Like all foreign hostages, the German hostages were kidnapped in an area where the Lebanese Government has no state or legal power. Unfortunately, the kidnappings are also a result of the chaotic conditions in some parts of Lebanon. And chaos itself is a product of the war in our country, which was

caused by massive outside interference in strictly Lebanese affairs.

The Lebanese Government is working with all its might to end war and chaos. In the final analysis, the only effective force against terrorism in Lebanon is to reestablish national control in the whole country. Meanwhile, we are cooperating with all countries and groups who are working for the release of the hostages.

[Schmalz] Could you name specific measures?

[Al-Jumayyil] The less we talk about what is being done to release the kidnap victims, the greater the chance is for a happy ending. And let me say a word about the future. In the long run it will be the best strategy for all countries involved in kidnappings to support Lebanese efforts to restore its independence and sovereignty. Anything else would only be shortsighted and superficial.

[Schmalz] Mr President, in an interview with *Die Welt* early this year you asked Europeans for help in a similar way. "Support us in our efforts to restore order in our own house," you said then. Did you get that support?

[Al-Jumayyil] At our request, the European Community granted us support in two parts: a financial part, and another consisting of produce. However, it is limited to approximately ECU25 million (DM52 million) and mainly for social welfare. It includes foodstuffs and medical care. Further produce aid amounting to ECU15 million (DM31 million) is to be granted before long.

Moreover, we requested new financial protocols, which were adopted within the framework of an agreement between Lebanon and the EC for 1985 and 1986, and which amount to a credits worth DM170 million. The agreement was frozen for security or other reasons.

[Schmalz] What are the prospects for that?

[Al-Jumayyil] We hope the EC will return to its original decision. Fortunately, we also have good friends in the EC member states who support our desires.

[Schmalz] Do you have an idea what that money could be used for?

[Al-Jumayyil] The protocols signed between Lebanon and the EC — by the way, a third one worth DM150 million has already been approved — serve two purposes: to strengthen the economic potential of our country and to improve the infrastructure. The first is necessary to guarantee our immediate needs, the second to find the prerequisites that will be necessary to carefully plan and prepare the path toward freedom and stability.

As you know from the experience of your own country, an enormous reconstruction program will have to be implemented in the postwar period, which, we hope, will come soon. Therefore, I asked the different authorities in the EC to check whether or not it would be possible to help Lebanon by means of international action comparable to the action that brought your country so much support after the war.

[Schmalz] That means, a kind of Marshall Plan for Lebanon?

[Al-Jumayyil] Yes, a new Marshall Plan for a peaceful and happy future for Lebanon. I am convinced that the idea will be accepted and that the community of Europeans will decide on such a plan for the reconstruction and the development of our country in the near future. Several studies written by Lebanese and European experts are a good basis for that.

However, a positive EC decision is of great significance to us, not only because of its economic and infrastructural consequences, but also extremely important for the confidence of the Lebanese people in their country, because they would see there is confidence in Lebanon's future abroad also. The support Europeans can give us, be it social or financial, will strengthen us so that Lebanon will not perish in the crisis from which we are currently suffering, but will find a good political solution.

[Schmalz] When will you visit the FRG again?

[Al-Jumayyil] Soon, I hope. Maybe before the end of this year.

Acting Prime Minister al-Huss Leaves for Kuwait

NC171524 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] Acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss left Beirut for Kuwait this afternoon to chair meetings of the Arab League's Economic and Social Committee. The meetings will last 3 days.

Communist Party Sends Greetings to Brazilian Party

NC171155 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1030 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] The Lebanese Communist Party's Central Committee has sent a message of greetings to the Brazilian Communist Party on the occasion of the convocation of its eighth extraordinary congress. The Central Committee affirmed the importance of the Brazilian Communist Party's first congress in 40 years. During this period, the party was able to develop and then come out into the open after many years of underground work. These years were marked by repression, dictatorship, and the usurpation of the Brazilian people's rights and interests. The message from the Lebanese Communist Party emphasized the close relations between the Brazilian and Lebanese peoples, and the struggle being waged by the two parties for democracy, justice, and social and socialist progress.

Hizballah Reportedly Kidnaps Car Bomb Driver

NC161935 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] According to information received from Ba'labakk, Hizballah gunmen today raided the Al-Tatari Hospital and kidnapped Ahmad al-Haj Isma'il of I'at town. He was the driver

of the Mercedes that exploded in Ba'labakk yesterday. The Syrians have asked for Isma'il's release so that he can give evidence.

Two University Teachers Murdered in Beirut Area
NC161221 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1030 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Three St Joseph University teachers have been the victims of suspicious assassinations in the Mar Rukkuz area, Tall Al-Za'tar District, within less than 10 days.

A few days ago, the body of Eng Camille Farah Sa'adah, a teacher at the Engineering College, was discovered dead in that area. At 0730 today, Dr 'Abduh Ilyas al-Asmar and his colleague, Diana Marun Saqr, were killed while traveling in Dr Asmar's automobile to the university to teach.

It should be recalled that Sa'adah's murder has caused extreme anger in Ghazir and among the university's students and teachers. The crime was regarded as part of the struggle for influence in the Al-Matn region between the Lebanese Forces and President Amin al-Jumayyil's followers.

Further Reportage on Visit of Turkey's Ozal

Talks on Border Security Held

TA161526 Ankara ANATOLIA in English
1510 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Damascus [no date as received] (A.A.) — Emerging from his three and a half hour meeting with Syrian head of state Hafiz al-Asad this noon, Prime Minister Turgut Ozal said "The meeting was positive and we discussed everything."

Meanwhile a committee created to discuss Turco-Syrian border security has not yet finished work. Turkish Interior Minister Yildirim Akbulut, chairing the committee, told A.A. that Syria stated that they would never allow for any reason anti-Turkish activities on their territory by any group, persons or organization. Akbulut added that in this context it was agreed in principle that Turkey and Syria should exchange information and extend each other help. Indicating that discussions will continue also tomorrow, Akbulut said the talks were proceeding successfully.

Responding to queries about press reports about 200 persons being arrested by Syrian authorities as a gesture to Turkey, Akbulut said he had been given no such information.

Al-Asad Confers With Ozal

JN170724 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] President al-Asad received Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal at noon yesterday. Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', Minister of State for Foreign Affairs 'Isam al-Na'ib, Turkish Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu, the Turkish ambassador in Damascus, and the Syrian ambasador to Turkey attended the meeting.

Ozal conveyed to the president the greetings of Turkish President Kenan Evren. The president accepted thankfully and asked Ozal to convey similar greetings. During the meeting they discussed relations between Syria and Turkey from all aspects, as well as issues of mutual concern. They also reviewed problems related to the situation and developments in various Middle East areas.

Leaders Discuss 'Terrorists'

TA161812 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish
1600 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, who is continuing his official visit to Syria, was received by Syrian President Hafiz al-asad in Damascus today. Ozal presented to Al-Asad a message from President Kenan Evren and invited the Syrian president to visit Turkey. Turkish Radio and Television [TRT] correspondent Gursel Inanc reports from Damascus:

[Begin Inanc recording] The Ozal-Al-Asad meeting, which began at the Presidential Palace at 1200 today, lasted for 3 and 1/2 hours. Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu also attended the meeting. Ozal presented Evren's message to Al-Asad and asked the Syrian president to visit Turkey.

Replying to questions by a TRT correspondent after the meeting, the prime minister said that all the issues between the two countries were discussed in a sincere and positive atmosphere. Ozal noted that some joint projects were also reviewed during the meeting.

In response to a question on whether or not any agreement will be signed between Turkey and Syria, Ozal said: The important thing is not an agreement, but better understanding between the two countries.

According to information received in connection with the meeting, Ozal explained to Al-Asad the importance Turkey attaches to the development of relations with Syria. Ozal remarked that the development of Turkish-Syrian relations will contribute to stability in the Middle East. The prime minister also noted that good relations are also necessary because of border rivers, adding that joint ventures involving these rivers can create a significant basis for cooperation.

Ozal said that the subject of Turkey's security and the waters of the Firat [Euphrates] River are two separate issues, and that he does not have any ulterior motive regarding the water to be supplied to Syria from the Firat River. During the meeting, the prime minister also stressed that the problem of terrorist groups acting against Turkey must be resolved and asked that these terrorists not be allowed to conduct any activities in Syrian territory.

In his turn, the Syrian president declared that Turkey's security is very important for Syria as well. He noted that Syria does not allow any activity directed against Turkey's security in its territory and will not do in the future. Al-Asad remarked that both countries are fully determined to develop bilateral relations.

In the second day of his visit to Syria, Ozal toured two mosques in Damascus. The prime minister and the delegation accompanying him will return to Turkey tomorrow. [end recording]

Subcommittees Formed

JN170719 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] The committees formed during the first session of Syrian-Turkish talks held their meetings yesterday. Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash and Turkish Interior Minister Yildirim Akbulut cochaired a meeting attended by members of the Syrian and Turkish delegations to the talks between the two countries' ministries. During this meeting, they discussed topics related to the promotion of cooperation between the two neighboring countries. They also agreed on most of the issues included on the agenda. Emphasis was placed on promoting relations of friendship and good-neighborliness to serve the interests of the two countries and both friendly peoples.

Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade, and (Mustafa Saljuk), secretary at the Turkish Council of Ministers for Economy and Treasury Affairs, also cochaired a meeting attended by members of the Syrian and Turkish delegations to the economic talks. During this meeting, they

reviewed cooperation between the two countries particularly in the field of economic cooperation and trade exchanges. The sides affirmed the importance of this meeting as an advanced step toward the promotion of these relations to the highest and best levels in the interest of both peoples in the two countries in light of the directives given by the countries' prime ministers. During this meeting it was also decided to form three subcommittees. The first subcommittee will be for trade exchanges; the second for bank cooperation and for defining the funds and ceilings allocated for trade exchanges; and the third for land, sea, and air transportation, communications, and telecommunications. The three subcommittees will be entrusted with discussing the issues and topics related to the work of these committees and will present the results attained to the chairmen of the two delegations.

Meanwhile, the heads and members of the Syrian and Turkish economic chambers met at noon yesterday. During the meeting, they reviewed cooperation in the economic and trade fields and ways to promote and bolster cooperation and achieve common benefits. They also discussed the possibility of increasing trade and industrial exchanges between the two countries, particularly consumer, production, industrial, and food products and the possibility of establishing joint agricultural and industrial projects. During this meeting, the two sides expressed the desire to promote trade and industrial relations to serve the interest of both peoples and countries.

Ozal, Al-Kasm News Conference

TA171615 Ankara ANATOLIA in English
1553 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] Damascus [no date as received] (A.A.) — His visit to Syria marks the beginning of new and serious relations with Syria, Prime Minister Turgut Ozal said today.

Speaking at a news conference after his meeting with his Syrian counterpart 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm this morning, Ozal added that his talk with Syrian head of state Hafiz al-Asad was very cordial.

Indicating that security between Turkey and Syria will contribute to the stability of the region, Ozal added that development of relations between the two countries would have a positive effect on relations in the Islamic and Arab world.

Ozal proceeded to explain that a protocol drawn up after nearly five hours of talks between the interior ministers of both countries foresees more effective measures to overcome security problems between Turkey and Syria.

Adding that Syria was prepared for a security cooperation with Turkey, Ozal said Damascus feels Turkey's security as strongly as its own.

According to the security protocol between the two countries, both Syria and Turkey will prevent activities against each other in their territories. The same protocol also stipulates extradition of criminals responsible of insurgent actions through the police organizations of the two countries.

Ozal, giving information about the economic cooperation protocol, said the Ataturk Dam would start holding water next year. Ozal added that until an agreement about allocation of waters of Euphrates River to Turkey, Iraq and Syria, an average of 500 cubic meters per second of water will be allowed to reach Syria from Birecik near Turkey's southeastern province of Sanliurfa.

Speaking at the same news conference, Syrian Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm confirmed Ozal by saying, "my brother Ozal explained all the subjects we have agreed."

Reminding that the protocols to be signed would serve the interests of both countries, Al-Kasm added that confidence and goodwill always go beyond agreements and protocols.

In the question and answer section of the news conference, Ozal confirmed that extradition to Turkey of Abdullah Ocalan (nickname Apo), the leader of the separatist insurgent organization PKK [Kurdish Workers Party], was taken up during the talks. In return Syria guaranteed that no anti-Turkish activities would be allowed on Syrian territory, Ozal said.

Al-Kasm, on his part, asserted that no Syrian controlled camps existed in Lebanon.

AL-SAFIR Cites Sources on Al-Asad-Walters Talks

NC170634 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] The *Al-Safir* newspaper reports that it has received information from Arab diplomatic sources on the results of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's recent talks with U.S. envoy Vernon Walters. These sources said President al-Asad had emphasized that the United States must cancel all of the economic and political measures that were set up after linking Syria to terrorism in order to normalize relations between the two countries. The Syrian president stressed that returning U.S. Ambassador Eagleton to Damascus is not enough.

Regarding Lebanon, President al-Asad affirmed to the U.S. envoy that Lebanon must stand on its feet again through a democratic dialogue among the Lebanese. He cautioned however that this is not possible until the assassins of late Prime Minister Karami are named. The sources added that President al-Asad insisted that Lebanon must remain a homeland for Lebanese Christians and Muslims, and that the required political reform must not take place at any faction's expense.

The sources cited Walters as having stated that the United States supports Lebanon's unity, sovereignty, and legitimate institutions without which the country cannot be rebuilt. Walters encouraged Syria to reach an agreement with the current Lebanese regime. He expressed Washington's awareness of the dimensions of the shock of Prime Minister Karami's assassination and its adverse effects upon Lebanon. Walters and President al-Asad agreed that the Lebanese authorities must work very seriously and sincerely to ensure that the perpetrators are apprehended. The U.S. envoy expressed optimism that his talks with President al-Asad will lead to a certain action regarding the foreign hostages being held in Lebanon.

Six Killed in Rocket Attack on Gardez City

LD161650 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1600 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Opposition extremist elements, violating the unilateral cease-fire which has been extended for a second time by the revolutionary power, fired a rocket on Gardez city and caused bereavement to some of our compatriots.

According to a report by a BIA correspondent, this inhuman action by the opposition extremist elements resulted in 6 of our compatriots, including women and children, being martyred, 11 others badly injured, and several houses in Gardez city damaged.

The report adds that the National Reconciliation Commission of Paktia and the people of that province have strongly condemned this savage action by the opposition extremist elements directed against national reconciliation. They have also given the necessary assistance to the victims.

Najibullah, Indian Communist Party Official Meet

LD161817 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1600 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, received (Mokim Faruqi), member of the Central Committee and secretary of the Indian Communist Party's National Council, at the Central Committee Headquarters this morning. The Indian party official is leading a delegation on a friendly visit to Kabul.

During this meeting, which took place in a friendly atmosphere, views were exchanged on topics of mutual interest.

Venkataraman Elected President by Large Majority

BK161658 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Excerpts] The Congress-I nominee, Mr R. Venkataraman, has scored a big win in the presidential elections by collecting nearly three-fourths of the value of the valid votes. The margin of his victory over the combined opposition nominee, Mr Justice V.R. Krishna Iyre, was worth 458,598 votes. The secretary general of the Lok Sabha, Dr Subash Kashyap, declared Mr Venkataraman elected to the office of the president of India shortly after the counting ended at 1800 [1230 GMT] this evening. Soon after being elected, Mr Venkataraman spoke to radio newsreel:

[Begin recording] I am deeply touched by the warmth and affection displayed by the people of India through their representatives in the electoral college. It is a great responsibility and I am entering upon it with all humility. It will be my endeavor to uphold the Constitution and to restore the prestige of the office of the president. We shall endeavor to build up a new India on the basis of mutual confidence and trust. [end recording]

That was the president-elect Mr R. Venkataraman. Mr Venkataraman polled 740,148 votes, while Mr Justice Krishna Iyre got 281,550. The independent candidate, Mr Mithilesh Kumar, got 2,223. All India Radio correspondent says that Mr Venkataraman polled more votes than the Congress-I's total strength. Of the 25 states, 17 gave majority to Venkataraman and 8 to Mr Iyre. [Passage omitted] Of the parliament members' votes, Mr Venkataraman got 606 and Mr Justice Krishna Iyre 139, Mr Mithilesh Kumar 2 votes, and 8 votes were invalid.

Immediately after the declaration of the results, the prime minister, several union ministers, members of parliament, and other leaders thronged the vice president house to congratulate Mr R. Venkataraman on his victory. The president, Giani Zail Singh, has congratulated Mr R. Venkataraman on his election to the office of the president of India. He wished him all success. Congratulating Mr Venkataraman, the opposition candidate, Mr Justice Krishna Iyre, expressed the hope that his presidency will be a period of people's power.

Congratulating Mr Venkataraman, Mr Rajiv Gandhi described the outcome of the election as good. About cross voting in favor of Mr Venkataraman, Mr Gandhi said it showed that the electors voted according to their conscience. The prime minister said Mr Venkataraman's victory is the manifestation of the faith of a large number of the oppositon as well. Asked about his relationship with the president-elect, Mr Gandhi said it will be very good. He said his party has been intact right through and has been strong and united.

DRA Delegation Concludes Visit; La'eq Views Policy

LD150657 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0500 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Text] Kabul, July 14, *Bakhtar* — The high-ranking party and state delegation of the DRA headed by Solayman La'eq, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and minister of tribal affairs and nationalities, who had gone to Delhi to visit Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, the great Pashtoon leader and a freedom fighter of the Indian sub-continent from the British colonialism, returned home today. La'eq before his departure said in an interview with a representative of All-Indian Radio in the Indira Gandhi international airport that the drafting of the new constitution of the DRA has been approved by the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council and is due to be published for public opinion soon. All Afghan citizens are entitled to express their views freely on the draft of the new constitution. The constitution will be approved on the basis of public will in the Loya Jirgah (Grand Assembly) of the DRA.

The policy of national accord is not only supported inside the country but also attracted extensive support in the international arena. Especially the non-aligned countries and Organisation of the Islamic Conference have expressed their backing for this policy, La'eq said. The U.S. imperialism, its accomplices and the military regime of Pakistan which have direct hand in the undeclared war against the DRA strive to neutralise this policy by creating obstacles on the way of its implementation. But the people of Afghanistan under the leadership of the party and state of the DRA are resolutely determined to defend this policy, La'eq said.

Casualties Reported in Punjab Terrorist Incidents

BK170856 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] In Punjab, six persons, including three members of a family, were shot dead by terrorists in separate incidents last night. In Amritsar District, Satwant Singh, his son, and a daughter were shot dead and another daughter injured when terrorists attacked his house in village Rampur under Jandiala police station. In another incident one person was killed and two others injured, including a woman in village Khanpur, by terrorists under the same police station. Two farmers were shot dead and a village watchman injured at a village under (Waltoha) police station in Amritsar and Bahadurgarh village in Patiala District in separate incidents.

Tripura Extremists Attack Market, Ambush Police

BK161300 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] In Tripura, at least 10 people, including 3 CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] personnel and 1 state police official, were killed in attacks by tribal extremists. Agency reports from Agartala say 10 TNV [Tripura National Volunteers] extremists stormed a market near (Maslee) in north Tripura last night and fired indiscriminately, killing four people and injuring seven. They also set fire to 14 shops. Soon after the incident, the CRPF and police officials began massive combing operations of the area and one CRPF unit [word indistinct] to an ambush set up by the extremists at Ishanpara early this morning. Three CRPF personnel were killed at the ambush. All police stations and outposts have been alerted.

Iran Severs Ties With French Government

LD171642 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 17 Jul 87

[From the headlines]

[Text] In the wake of the French Government's insistence in contravening the Vienna Convention and its unjust dealing in regard to the Iranian diplomats, the Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman today announced severance of relations between Iran and France.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Links 'Embassies War' to Gulf

LD171146 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] Friday prayer ceremonies have been held throughout the country today on the eve of the convocation of the great political-religious hajj congress. The Muslim citizens of Tehran congregated at the Tehran University campus and its surrounding thoroughfares toperform the Friday prayers in one body under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

In his sermon, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council referred to the arrogant powers' plots in the Persian Gulf, led by America. He said: The world's people, and the American people in particular, should know that Reagan and his associates are endeavoring to create a crisis in the Persian Gulf and to involve the rest of the world in it as well.

Calling on the international media to convey this warning throughout the world, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council referred to the reasons behind the global blasphemy's confrontation, led by America, with the Islamic Revolution. He stated: In recent years, arrogance has employed all its tools to crush the Islamic movement. One of these tools is that very same Iraqi Ba'th Party which, by attacking Iran, was trying to prevent the Islamic revolution from spreading throughout the region. It was unsuccessful, however, and today they are feeling threatened.

Despite the untold amount of assistance — from laser bombs to chemical bombs, sophisticated aircraft, destructive weapons, and intelligence facilities such as AWACS and satellites — placed at the Iraqi regime's disposal, they have become disillusioned with that regime as well. This is why they are trying to enter this dangerous arena. In order to distance the Iranian people from their objective,they have resorted to two tools, one of which is psychological warfare. America, backed by France and Britain, is the source of this psychological warfare. For this reason, we regard the issue of the war of the embassies as inseparable from the Persian Gulf war.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: The authorities in France and England had wanted to expand their relations with Iran. But their own domestic problems, which stem from the entanglement of various groups in these countries, do not allow the wishes of the leaders of England and France to be fulfilled.

Referring the the McFarlane scandal, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly asserted: Reagan has suffered complete defeat in this episode. According to the interpretation of one U.S. newspaper, the Islamic Republic of Iran scalped Reagan and the President of the American Republic and his associates have lost their honor among their people.

The representative of the imam on the Supreme Defense Council added: The leaders of these countries are being punished for their own insincerity and internal disgrace. America was also disgraced by the McFarlane problem. Ringleaders in America, England, and France are not in a position to undertake any important or serious moves in any part of the world, such as the Persian Gulf. The French are thieves and plunderers. They borrowed $1 billion from us several years ago and, according to the agreement, they must return this loan to us. Unfortunately, however, with total audacity they not only refuse to return the loan but also give weapons to our enemy, using our own money, and thus strengthen this enemy. Because they cannot do anything in the war between Iraq and Iran, they have set in motion a psychological warfare.

In reply to the President of America, who had said that the leaders of the Islamic Republic of Iran were frightened and living in anxiety over whether the American forces will go to the Persian Gulf, the representative of the imam in the Supreme Defense Council affirmed: For the wayfarers of Karbala' and the defenders of the Persian Gulf, it would be much sweeter to kill or arrest American forces instead of Iraqi forces. Our warriors show 10 times more enthusiasm toward fighting with the forces of criminal America than with the Zionist enemy.

The representative of the imam on the Supreme Defense Council stressed: If they resort to mischief in the Persian Gulf and set fire to the region, then most certainly those who will suffer most from the smoke of this fire will be the American people, the supporters of America, and the reactionary governments of the region.

The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly added: The war has reached a sensitive stage; all these movements are designed to maintain the balance [as heard] of the Ba'th party of Iraq. We must not let this balance be maintained. We must be ready for the day when they are tempted from within to resort to foolishness and do mischief in the Persian Gulf.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed appreciation for the efforts being undertaken by the government which, in cooperation with the judicial power, has started a campaign against high prices and profiteering. In his sermon he said that the increase in prices is in no one's interest. This is a danger which threatens the very essence of the revolution. For the continuation of this movement [to stop rising prices], the cooperation of all people is necessary.

Revolution Committees Establish New Bases in Gulf

LD161542 Tehran IRNA in English 1510 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormozgan Prov., July 16, IRNA — Commander of the Islamic Revolution's Committees (IRC) Hojjat ol-Eslam Serajeddin Musavi [title as received] inaugurated two headquarters and one naval base of IRC forces at Bandar-e Lengeh and Kish Island in the Persian Gulf Wednesday.

In his inaugural speech, Hoj. Musavi expressed hope that the setting up of these bases would help the IRC to effectively control borders and fight drug traffickers.

Commentary on 'Desperation' of U.S. Gulf Policy

LD161341 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1058 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Station commentary: "The Threat of Economic Sanctions; the Height of Desperation in U.S. Ruling Circles"]

[Text] When the plan of backing Kuwaiti ships was, for the umpteenth time, delayed for another 7 days yesterday, the U.S. Senate, following its abortive attempt to pass another plan on a 90-day postponement of Reagan's decision to escort Kuwaiti ships, announced in a resolution that a deliberate attack by any country against ships flying the U.S. flag will lead to a total severance of commercial relations between the United States and that country.

It is interesting to note that this latest decision was made following warnings from a considerable number of U.S. Congressmen about the dangerous consequences of Washington's intervention in the Persian Gulf, and that such intervention is doomed. In addition, some time ago, a bill in the House of Representatives explicitly demanded that the plan for reflagging Kuwaiti ships should be deferred for 90 days. However, none of these efforts have brought any change in the decision by Reagan's government to support Kuwaiti ships. The U.S. President, by relying on his legal powers, is insisting on flying the U.S. flag on Kuwaiti vessels.

It thus appears that Reagan's opponents, after coming through this phase of the scuffle and the refusal of the Reagan government to change its mind, have in practice relinquished their responsibility vis-a-vis the consequences of a U.S. intervention in the Persian Gulf and have inevitably left the ultimate responsibility to Reagan himself. Yesterday, the leader of the Democratic majority in the U.S. Senate explicitly said: We expressed our opinion, delivered the message, and demonstrated that the majority in this House is opposed to the plan to reflag Kuwaiti ships. Now it is time for us to get on with other tasks.

In view of these problems, the fact that the opponents have given up hope of stopping the plan to reflag Kuwaiti ships and in view of the deep concern expressed by the majority of U.S. congressmen, the approval of a bill to introduce sanctions against any country that might attack ships flying the U.S. flag shows the height of desperation and despondency of a government which is trying, in a ridiculous manner, to protect its warships by threatening retaliation in the form of trade sanctions.

As a rule, according to the measures taken so far, warships and military force are used as a last resort, when all diplomatic efforts and economic pressures fail to achieve the desired objectives. These warships are, in practice, supposed to end the problem in favor of the intervening government. However, today they have reached a point where U.S. military forces, the most modern armed forces in the world, have to protect themselves under the shadow of threatened economic sanctions.

The most interesting point is that it appears that U.S. Senate members do not remember that the U.S. Government imposed economic sanctions against the Islamic Republic of Iran years ago. Therefore, their threat of an economic embargo against our country is a stupid and ridiculous move. It demonstrates the height of their desperation and despondency in the face of the Persian Gulf crisis.

Diplomat 'Beaten Up' by French Moved to Tehran

LD161905 Tehran IRNA in English 1840 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 16, IRNA — Iranian diplomat Mohsen Aminzadeh, who is unable to speak on account of being beaten up by French border police at Geneva Airport Saturday, was transferred to Tehran and hospitalized in the intensive care unit (ICU) of Pars Hospital.

The hospital specialists said that a clear diagnosis of the brain trauma of Mohsen Aminzadeh would be possible only after the tests and computerized tomograghy scan were thoroughly examined. Aminzadeh cannot speak, and communicates with others by winking.

One of the hospital neurologists Dr. Nayyer Nouri told IRNA that no physical signs of any blows or wounds on the body or skull of the patient except a bruise on the corner of one of his eyes could be traced. But a brain shock might happen without any visible signs, he added.

Disclosing that the bruise on the corner of the patient's eye might have been caused due to a blow to his head, Dr. Nouri said that although Aminzadeh is not in a coma, the time length of his treatment could not be specified.

Dr. Nouri noted that a letter from the Swiss hospital where Aminzadeh had been hospitalized said that the X-rays showed no signs of any blows or fracture.

Aminzadeh's wife also told IRNA that her husband was transfered to Geneva Hospital after he had been beaten up by French police but he was discharged after only 24 hours in that hospital because his condition was not dangerous according to the hospital authorities. But, Mrs. Aminzadeh noted that when her husband returned to the embassy he became very ill again and went into a coma and had to be sent to another hospital in Geneva.

Mrs. Aminzadeh asserted that her husband's condition was better than the other night according to "his hand gestures", adding that the authorities at Geneva hospital did not treat her husband well and it seemed they were willing to discharge him as soon as possible.

Some of the physicians at Pars Hospital did not reject a possible blow to the head without causing any fracture in the skull. They admitted that due to this fact the patient might be in a critical condition.

Mohsen Aminzadeh the second secretary at Iranian Embassy in Paris was assaulted by French police at the French territory of the Geneva airport while he was flying to Paris. His embassy papers were confiscated and photographed. The reporters here could not get in touch with him because he was unable to speak.

Foreign Ministry Official Comments

LD162214 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] The deputy political minister of our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been interviewed by our reporter, following the arrival back in Tehran of diplomat Mohsen Aminzadeh.

Regarding the recent incident instigated by the French police and the responsive measures taken by the Iranian Foreign Ministry, he said: This barbaric act was contrary to the Vienna Convention. Although the French charge d'affaires in Tehran apologized for this illegal action by the French police in his meeting with officials from our Foreign Ministry, until we receive more precise details about this incident, we shall continue to monitor this situation and then adopt a final decision.

He added: In our contacts with the French authorities during this affair, we realized that, unfortunately, not only do they not have a correct understanding of some of their own laws, but they also are not following those parts of the laws that they do accept and understand.

Referring to Aminzadeh's physical condition, the deputy political minister from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said: This incident will have a serious and severe impact on mutual relations. We will not allow France or any other country to ignore bilateral commitments in their (?relations) with us. After we hear details from the French authorities, we will adopt the necessary decisions and respond appropriately.

In conclusion, he thanked the Swiss officials and said: The French security organization has in some ways confirmed that it stole documents from the Iranian diplomat. Thus, unfortunately, it must be stated that Aminzadeh was a victim of the West's claims that it respects international laws.

Belgium, EEC Asked To Condemn Iraqi Chemical Use

LD161013 Tehran IRNA in English 0810 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Brussels, July 16, IRNA — Iranian Embassy in Brussels in two separate notes to the Belgian foreign minister and the European Parliament called on them to fulfill their humanitarian and international duty by condemning Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons.

Referring to Iraq's record of using lethal weapons in its imposed war against Iran, the notes stressed that Iraqi chemical attacks expanded significantly over the past few months, and even civilians of border Iranian towns had been repeatedly subjected to Iraqi chemical bombings.

The Iranian Embassy noted that the chemical bombardment of Sardasht which claimed the lives of about 60 civilians and injured more than 2,000 others, took place only two weeks after the release of a report by a U.N. probe team.

The notes added that severity of Iraqi attacks, variety of chemical substances deployed, as well as the large number of injured, especially women and children, were reasons for Iran sending a group of the victims to hospitals in Europe. In this connection two women and three children have been hospitalised in Brussels.

In its note to the Belgian foreign minister, the Iranian Embassy warned of escalated Iraqi deployment of chemical substances, and called on the Belgian Government to condemn these crimes independently.

It also called on the Belgian Government to take measures to halt export of chemical substances to Iraq which could be turned into lethal weapons, in accordance with the framework of the European Economic Community.

The note said that the Islamic Republic of Iran knows well that thousands of Belgians fell victim to chemical weapons deployed during the World War One, and was convinced that the Belgian Government would not remain indifferent towards present Iraqi crimes.

In Iran's note to the European Parliament, its members were invited to visit chemical victims hospitalised in Brussels. They were also called on to strongly condemn Iraqi violation of international regulations, especially its deployment of chemical weapons.

Deputy Energy Minister Meets With Soviet Envoy

LD151814 Tehran IRNA in English 1730 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 15, IRNA — Soviet Ambassador in Tehran Vil Boldyrev met with Deputy Energy Minister for International Affairs Mohammad Reza Adeli [name as received] here Wednesday, and discussed with him Tehran-Moscow technical cooperation in the fields of energy and water supply.

The two also discussed a plan to construct two dams on the border river of Aras as well as exchange visits by Iranian and Soviet experts to each other's country.

They also agreed that Iranian energy experts would visit the Soviet steam power station near the Caspian Sea, and that Soviet experts would return to Iran to complete "Ramin" power station in Ahvaz.

Larijani Heads Delegation to Moscow Talks

LD161718 Tehran IRNA in English 1705 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 16, IRNA — Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Economic and International Affairs Mohammad Javad Larijani heading a delegation left here for Moscow today at the invitation of his Soviet counterpart Yuliy Vorontsov.

Bilateral relations and mutual political and economic cooperation between the two countries are to be discussed during Larijani's visit to Moscow. The issues had been discussed by the two officials in their recent meetings in Geneva and Tehran.

Congolese Mines, Energy Minister Arrives 15 Jul

NC160709 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Congolese Minister of Mines and Energy Rodolphe Adada arrived in Tehran last night to discuss ways in which bilateral cooperation can be expanded. He was welcomed by our country's mines and metals minister, Mr Ayatollahi, and some officials from the Foreign Ministry. The Congolese mines and energy minister spoke to our correspondent at Tehran airport, saying: The ties between our two countries have expanded in recent years. During this visit, there will be a review of the letter of understanding which the Congolese foreign minister signed with Iranian officials during his trip here a few months ago.

The Congolese minister noted that his country is one of the oil-producing nations in Africa. He stated: We have some problems in the mineral and energy fields and hope to enlist the Islamic Republic of Iran's assistance in eliminating them. This will prove to be beneficial for the future of both countries in the expansion of mutual relations.

Our correspondent reports: Congo, Algeria, Libya, Nigeria, Gabon, Angola, and Cameroon comprise the African oil-producing countries. In addition to their oil and gas reserves, these countries also have lead, zinc, uranium, gold mines, dense forests, and a very advanced wood-manufacturing industry. Hence, in view of these factors, it is possible that the two countries can cooperate in the fields of prospecting, extracting, and utilizing minerals.

Iraq Sending Saudi Tribesmen To Fill Kurdish Towns

LD161739 Tehran IRNA in English 1710 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 16, IRNA — The Iraqi Ba'thist regime has ruthlessly destroyed Kurdish villages in Irbil region, northern Iraq, replacing the indigenous inhabitants with Arab tribesmen from Saudi Arabia, Ramadan Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) reported today.

The headquarters said the Baghdad regime has provided the Saudi tribesmen with money, arms, and vehicles and has ordered them to massacre defenceless Kurdish people so as to expedite their forced expulsion from their hometowns. "Dasht-e Qarach" [name as received] is one of the ruined villages which is located between Irbil and Tikrit.

In response to the inhuman act which left 15 people martyred and their properties plundered, Peshmergas of Iraq's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) attacked "Chwargaman" village in Irbil region killing six Saudi tribal mercenaries of the "Shammar" tribe. Head of the tribe Shaykh Safa [name as received] is among the dead, Ramadan Hqs. said. The PUK combatants during the attack destroyed four military vehicles and set afire all residences of the Saudi mercenaries, seizing three vehicles and some weaponry intact. Three more mercenaries were also killed in a nearby village.

Meanwhile, two Iraqi refugees disclosed to IRNA in Bakhtaran that the Iraqi regime has hired these notorious Wahhabi tribesmen from Saudi Arabia in order to wage a sectarian strife in Iraq's Kurdish areas.

The mercenaries have launched a reign of terror in Kurdish villages through armed attacks on Kurdish people, said a refugee, noting "We should prevent a sectarian dispute in Iraq's Kurdistan." He urged that measures should be taken to convince the world that Wahhabis are British agents bent upon creating tension.

Khatem ol-Anbiya' HQ Approves Gulf Defense Plan

LD161120 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] A Central News Unit correspondent has reported that the Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the center directing the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, held a 10-hour session during which those attending discussed and reviewed current developments in the Persian Gulf and the latest threats in the region.

During the session, which was attended by high-ranking officials, headquarters commanders, and commanders of the corps's three services and the Armed Forces, proposals on methods to counter those threats were discussed and approved.

A senior official at the Khatem ol-Anbiya' headquarters commented on the motive for convening the session. He told our reporter: Naturally, as the defender and supporter of security and tranquillity in the Persian Gulf, we should prepare appropriate plans to respond to the plots and acts of mischief which the United States is hatching in this sensitive part of the world.

He added: These plans are intended to give a timely response to foreign aggressors who are thinking in terms of expanding their military influence in the region. The Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters [words indistinct] held a session. Fortunately, our forces have demonstrated that they are fully prepared to counter the United States' aggressive plot.

Continuing his remarks, the Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters official said: Our plans are based on popular forces and on inventive methods. In response to any act of mischief by the

United States, the Persian Gulf will be converted into a very dangerous quagmire for the aggressors.

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

Iraqi Positions Shelled

LD161538 Tehran IRNA in English 1515 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, July 16, IRNA — Muslim forces of Iran heavily shelled Iraqi troops' positions in Bakhtaran and Ilam border areas, western fronts, Wednesday and Thursday morning, killing eight enemy soldiers and destroying three munitions dumps and two vehicles of theirs.

Enemy engineering operations in the above-mentioned fronts were also halted and their fire silenced by the Iranian artillery fire.

Iraqi Officer Defects

LD161543 Tehran IRNA in English 1520 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 16, IRNA — Four Iraqi soldiers were killed and six others, including an officer, were captured in a series of operations launched by Iraqi Kurdish Peshmergas in Al-Sulaymaniyah Province, northeastern Iraq Wednesday.

Announcing the above Ramadan headquarters reported Thursday that the commander of Iraq's 'Khafifa' (light) Battalion 24, Salih Barzani, along with his deputy and 50 soldiers defected to the Peshmergas in Al-Sulaymaniyah, bringing over large quantities of weapons.

The report said the Peshmergas ambushed an Iraqi vehicle on the Tuzkhurmatu-Kirkuk Road yesterday, killing two Ba'thist soldiers and seizing the vehicle. They also seized another Iraqi truck and killed two other soldiers on the Tuzkhurmatu-Nojul Road Wednesday.

Iraqi officer Musa Kazim Habib from Qal'at Dizah, was taken prisoner by the Peshmergas who also captured five other conscripts, the report concluded.

Communique No 2,899

LD161642 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 16, IRNA — Iranian Navy gunboats intercepted and searched eight cargo ships and oil tankers in the Straitof Hormuz Wednesday but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied they were not carrying goods for Iraq.

Announcing the above here Thursday, the 2899th Joint Staff communique said that 10 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and several enemy gun emplacements and vehicles were set afire in parts of the battlefields yesterday when shelled by Iranian artillery fire.

Iranian gendarmerie forces heavily shelled Iraqi positions in parts of the southern fronts Wednesday, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and destroying a vehicle and 15 gun emplacements of theirs.

Two Iraq civilians surrendered to the Iranian forces in a northwestern front Wednesday and requested political asylum.

Iraqi patrol convoys attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions in Yebis and Chazabeh, southern fronts, yesterday were forced to flee by Iranian artillery fire.

The artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants disrupted Iraqi engineering operations in the southern theater of Nahr 'Anbar, the communique concluded.

Iraqi Attack 'Repelled'

LD161716 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., July 16, IRNA — Muslim combatants repelled an enemy attack in one of the southern operational regions inflicting heavy losses and casualties on Iraqi troops last night.

In an aborted attempt, Iraqi forces tried to approach Iranian forces' position, but were forced to flee by the artillery fire of Muslim combatants.

Three enemy tanks were set on fire and several Iraqi Ba'thist soldiers were killed or wounded.

Meanwhile, Muslim combatants stationed on Majnun Islands and east of Al-Basra destroyed four enemy vehicles and six individual and group bunkers as well as

two machine gun positions, by shelling enemy strongholds. A number of Iraqi forces were also killed or wounded.

'Strong Protest' Against Air, Artillery Attacks

BK170901 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] Afghan aircraft violated Pakistan's airspace on 7 July and dropped five bombs on the village of Gadai in the Bajaur Agency, killing five people, including a woman and three children, and injuring two others. Armed Forces from the Kabul administration also fired 20 artillery rounds into the Ghazni area of the Bajaur Agency on 10 July, killing a Pakistani child.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office yesterday [16 July] where a strong protest was lodged with him for these unprovoked attacks.

Charges by U.S. Congressmen Described as 'Baseless'

BK161124 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] A foreign Office spokesman has described as baseless the allegation by two U.S. Congressmen accusing Pakistan offlouting U.S. laws and attempting to illegally export material for a nuclear device. In a statement in Islamabad today, he said neither the Government of Pakistan nor any of its agencies sponsored any violation of the export laws of the United States. He said according to information made available by U.S. sources a Canadian resident Arshad Pervez has been charged with bribing an undercover U.S. Customs agent for the issue of a false export licence.

The spokesman said in the past a number of Pakistani citizens accused of violating trade laws were subsequently acquitted. All these fake and baseless cases were sensational propaganda against Pakistan in order to oppose the U.S. economic aid and military sales program for Pakistan. The Government of Pakistan regrets and resents such blatant and motivated propaganda.

Junejo Returns From Japan, Visits Bombing Site

BK161537 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo returned to Karachi from Japan this afternoon. He went directly to the Bohri Bazaar and Sydina Burhanuddin Road in the Sadar area where a heavy loss of life and damage to property was caused by Tuesday's bomb blasts. The prime minister visited various buildings and shops gutted by fire following the explosions.

Talking to people in the area, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo assured them that the government will help those affected by the blasts in every way possible. He added that he was very impressed by the courage and resolution displayed by the people of Karachi, who have faced this situation as a true [word indistinct]. He said such occasions demand patience and courage. [passage omitted]

Government Dismisses Over 1,500 Striking Doctors

BK161614 Hong Kong AFP in English
1558 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Colombo, July 16 (AFP) — Sri Lanka on Thursday effectively dismissed more than 1,500 doctors who went on strike in solidarity with medical students at state-run universities. A communique issued by the Ministries of Health and Teaching Hospitals said that under terms of emergency regulations, all striking physicians were deemed to have vacated their posts.

Health Minister Dr. Ranjit Atapattu told state radio that if the doctors went back to their posts, they would be considered as fresh applicants for their jobs. He said arrangements had been made to provide free consultations and treatment at municipal health clinics in Colombo and at private city nursing homes in view of the situation.

Officials of the doctors' union, the Government Medical Officers Association (GMOA), which launched the strike Wednesday, downplayed the dismissal notice, saying they were used to such threats.

"Are they going to use bus drivers as doctors? We will wait and see," one official said.

The strike first hit major hospitals in Colombo, Kandy, Jaffna and Galle. It grew Thursday as physicians walked out at several provincial hospitals, joined by more than 120 dental surgeons in the capital.

The doctors are upset that students at a private medical school near Colombo are taking the same exam and getting the same degree as medical students at highly competitive government-run universities. Students at the universities had demonstrated against the situation Tuesday.

The government on Wednesday declared all health services to be "essential" under emergency law, and it threatened to take punitive action against the striking physicians.

GMOA's assistant secretary, Dr. T.S.D. Amarasena, said Thursday that 1,500 doctors had joined the strike, but that emergency services were being maintained at all hospitals to attend to urgent cases. He added that victims of fighting between government troops and Tamil guerrillas would be treated. Militant Tamils have been fighting since mid-1983 for a separate state in north and east Sri Lanka.

Dr. Atapattu told state television that students at government medical schools should not worry about their future, since all medical college graduates would be guaranteed jobs in the state sector.

LTTE Area Leader Reported Killed in Fighting

BK170947 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
0928 GMT 17 Jul 87

["OANA/POOL" item]

[Text] Colombo, July 17 (*Lanka Puwath*) — Six terrorists and three soldiers were killed in eastern Sri Lanka yesterday. One of the terrorists killed was identified as "Nidhi", the area leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in Akkaraipattu.

The Media Centre in Colombo told *Lanka Puwath* that at Kallady, Batticaloa District, police commandos from the Special Task Force (STF) on patrol killed "Nidhi" the area leader of the LTTF in Akkaraipattu and captured his weapons including hand grenades and explosive devices yesterday.

Government troops on patrol were attacked by armed separatist terrorists belonging to the LTTE gang, at Thanniuttru-Mullavali in the Mullaitivu District yesterday. Troops effectively repulsed the attack and in the ensuing fire fight five terrorists were killed and their weapons captured.

Three soldiers were also killed in the incident. They are: Corporal Navaratna Banda of Matale, Private KKS Deshabandu of Wennappuwa and Private A G Sunil Bandara of Narammala. The troops belonged to the 3rd Gajaba Regiment.

President, Cabinet Members Meet With Indian Envoy

BK170455 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
0420 GMT 17 Jul 87

["OANA/POOL" item]

[Text] Colombo, July 17 (*Lanka Puwath*) — Sri Lankan President J.R. Jayewardene and several members of his cabinet yesterday met with Indian High Commissioner J.N. Dixit for a discussion on the possibilities of a political settlement of the national problem, according to today's *Daily News*.

The *Daily News* quoting authoritative sources said several cabinet ministers were associated with the president at yesterday's talks which were broadly an exchange of views on possibilities of a settlement and how India could help in such a process.

It was agreed that the substance of yesterday's discussions should not be disclosed and participants were tightlipped after the meeting.

Among the ministers who attended were Messrs A.C.S. Hameed, Lalith Athulathmudali, Gamini Dissanayake, Gamani Jayasuriya, M.H. Mohamed, Dr Ranjit Atapattu, Dr Anandatissa de Alwis, S. Thondaman and Ronnie de Mel.

Indian High Commissioner Dixit contacted by the *Daily News* declined to comment on the discussions.